
RAZAA
WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY POOJA TOLANI
SHORT FILM MARKET
PICKS
2025
CLERMONT-FERRAND
SHORTSHORTS
FILM FESTIVAL & ASIA 2025
OFFICIAL SELECTION
OFFICIAL SELECTION
COMPETITION
Bengaluru
International Short
Film Festival
2025
17th IDSFFK
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY & SHORT FILM FESTIVAL OF KERALA
OFFICIAL SELECTION
COMPETITION
SHORT FICTION
16TH ANNUAL
CHICAGO
SOUTH ASIAN
FILM FESTIVAL
2025
HONORABLE MENTION
BEST SHORT FILM
Tasveer Film
Festival
2025
IFFSAToronto
OFFICIAL SELECTION 2025
OFFICIAL SELECTION
Short Encounters
International Film
Festival
2026
HONORABLE JURY MENTION
16th Dada Saheb
Phalke Film Festival-26
New Delhi, India
PÖFF
shorts
OFFICIAL
SELECTION
SEMI-FINALIST
Rhode
Island
International
Film
Festival
2025
Castellinaria
Festival del cinema giovane
38
Premio "Oltre le sbarre"
WINNER
YELLOWSTONE
INTERNATIONAL FILMFESTIVAL 2025
BEST DIRECTOR
INDIAN SHORT
WINNER
YELLOWSTONE
INTERNATIONAL FILMFESTIVAL 2025
BEST ACTOR
(FEMALE)
Official Selection
12th SPIFF
Smita Patil International
Film Festival
2026
OFFICIAL SELECTION
NEW YORK INDIAN
FILM FESTIVAL
2026
BRUSSELS
SHORT FILM
FESTIVAL
OFFICIAL SELECTION
2026
MIFF
MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
BEST DEBUT
DIRECTOR
2026
SHORT
ENCOUNTERS
AWARD WINNER
BEST FIRST TIME DIRECTOR



TITLE	GENRE
Razaa	**Drama**
DURATION	
14 min 43 seconds	
LANGUAGE	
Hindi/Urdu (English Subtitles)	
PRODUCTION YEAR	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
2024	**India**
TECHNICAL INFORMATION	
RATIO **1.66:1**	SOUND **5.1**

SYNOPSIS

18-year-old Razaa and her mother Sabeen wait in a gynaecologist’s clinic for an abortion. As they argue about the morality of the difficult decision they must make, Razaa's father calls. They cannot let him find out about the pregnancy…



AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

PÖFF SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL 2025
Official Selection in Live Action Competition International

TASVEER FILM FESTIVAL 2025
Honorable Mention Award for Best Short Film

CASTELLINARIA FILM FESTIVAL 2025
OLTRE LE SBARRE (Beyond The Bars) Award for Best Short Film in Castellincorto Competition

SHORT SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL & ASIA 2025
Official Selection in Live-Action Asia International Section (WORLD PREMIERE)

FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2025
Semi Finalist

CLERMONT FERRAND INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 2025
Featured in Short Film Market Picks 2025

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY AND SHORT FILM FESTIVAL OF KERALA 2025
Official Selection in Competition Section

BENGALURU INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 2025
(India's Only Oscar Qualifying Short Film Festival)
Official Selection in Indian Competition Section

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF SOUTH ASIA TORONTO 2025
Official Selection

CHICAGO SOUTH ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL 2025
Official Selection

YELLOWSTONE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2025
Award for Best Director (Short Film), Award for Best Actor Female (Short Film)

SMITA PATIL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2025
Official Selection in Competition

BRUSSELS SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 2026
Official Selection in International Competition

SHORT ENCOUNTERS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2026
Award for Best First Time Director

NEW YORK INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL 2026
Official Selection

MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2026
Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagri Award for Best Debut Director (National Competition)

DADASAHEB PHALKE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2026
Honorable Jury Mention for Best Short Film



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The first thing a woman often feels when offered a choice, is not liberation or relief - it is crippling fear. Like a bird who has not been taught to fly and suddenly finds herself out of the cage. This is the story about a woman overcoming that fear and discovering the will within herself to make a choice. Razaa means ‘will’.

The film is also about the patriarchal violence within families that is accepted as perfectly normal. Inflicted by fathers, brothers, husbands – men who women should be able to trust.

The mother and daughter in Razaa have little to no exposure to ideas of freedom and feminism. And yet, their fight is every woman’s fight. Because even though it sounds like science fiction – it isn’t. That even in 2025, abortion rights are still up for debate and women the world over are still fighting for the right to their own bodies.

And that's why making this film felt relevant, urgent.

I did not choose this story to become a director.
I chose to become a director so that I could tell this story.

My directorial debut was possible because of an enthusiastic (and largely female) team. Every single person has poured their love into it. Because they believed this story must be told. Razaa is a film made with small means, but very big hearts.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Pooja Tolani is an Indian screenwriter who makes her directorial debut with the short film ***RAZAA.***

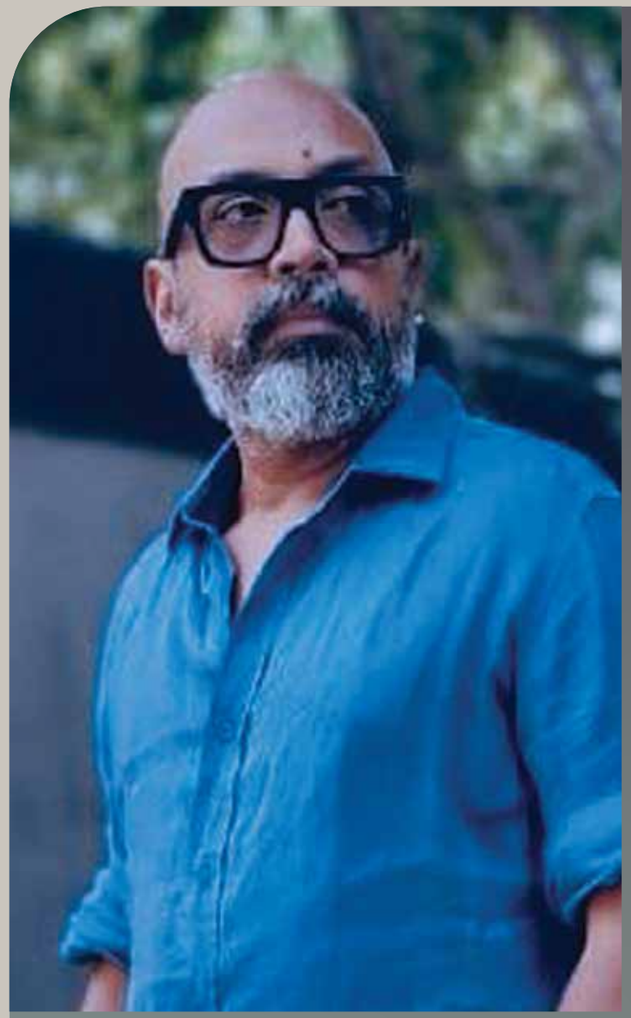
Her screenwriting work includes ***MAA BEHEN*** (directed by Suresh Triveni), ***SACRED GAMES 2*** (directed by Anurag Kashyap, Neeraj Ghaywan, showrun by Vikramaditya Motwane), ***LUST STORIES 2: THE MIRROR*** (directed by Konkona Sensharma) and ***SARFIRA*** (directed by Sudha Kongara).

Pooja has been selected for the US Department of State International Visitor Leadership Program - a single country exchange programme titled Scripting Change: Women Screenwriters in Contemporary Hindi Cinema 2024-25.

She has been awarded the Asia Society New Voices Fellowship for Screenwriters funded by Time Warner. She was mentored by director Sriram Raghavan during this programme.

She has also served as a member of the Executive Committee of Screenwriters Association - a trade union for Indian screenwriters. She is an alumni of the Film and Television Institute of India. Pooja lives in Mumbai, India.





PRODUCERS

SURESH TRIVENI

Suresh Triveni is an Indian filmmaker known for the critically acclaimed Vidya Balan starrers ***TUMHARI SULU*** and ***JALSA***, ***SUBEDAAR*** starring Anil Kapoor and ***MAA BEHEN*** starring Madhuri Dixit and Tripti Dimri. He began his career in advertising - directing iconic campaigns like the *"Mauka Mauka"* cricket ads. Apart from producing his own films, he has also show run and produced the series ***DALDAL*** on Amazon Prime from his production house Opening Image where he is attempting to nurture genre bending narratives. He has independently produced several short films including Ambiecka Pundit's ***UNDER THE WATERS*** which was selected in IFFLA and Dharamshala Film Festival amongst other international

RADHIKA SAWHNEY

Radhika Sawhney is a Mumbai-based producer and actor who has been producing commercials under her production house Radhika Produces Films. She has worked in advertising for over 15 years and collaborated with leading advertising agencies and brands. ***RAZAA*** is her first array into producing fiction and she is now actively producing short films with independent voices and compelling narratives.

Radhika is also a theatre actor and has played pivotal parts in the Abbas Khan directed ***LETTERS OF SURESH*** and Sunil Shanbag directed ***THE HORSE*** – both of which earned her much acclaim for her natural stage presence.





CAST

GEETANJALI KULKARNI

Geetanjali Kulkarni is an Indian actor known for her powerful performance in Chaitanya Tamhane's ***COURT*** which premiered at the Venice Film Festival in 2014 and won the Best Film Award in Horizons category. Geetanjali won the Filmfare Best Film Actress Award (Critics) for her performance. She has played pivotal roles in films like ***MUKTIBHAVAN, SIR, PHOTOGRAPH, ANANDI GOPAL*** and ***KARKHANISANCHI WARI***. She has also acted in several series including ***GULLAK, TAJMAHAL 1989, KHAUFF*** streaming on various OTT platforms. She is an alumni of National School of Drama with over thirty years of acting experience in several theatre productions.

BHUMIKA SHARMA

Bhumika Sharma is an Indian actor who has made appearances in ***LUST STORIES 2: THE MIRROR*** directed by Konkona Sensharma and the series ***THE RAILWAY MEN*** both streaming on Netflix. She has played the lead in another, yet to be released short film. She lives in Mumbai and is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Commerce along with her acting career.





CAST

SABEEN
GEETANJALI KULKARNI

RAZAA
BHUMIKA SHARMA

DR. KARUNA
ARCHANA PATEL

RECEPTIONIST
ZEBA HUSSAIN

MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVE
KUNDAN ROY


PRODUCERS
SURESH TRIVENI
RADHIKA SAWHNEY
RADHIKA PRODUCES FILMS



CREW

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
MONICA TIWARI

PRODUCTION DESIGN
PRACHI DESHPANDE

EDITOR
DIPIKA KALRA

SOUND
MANDAR KULKARNI

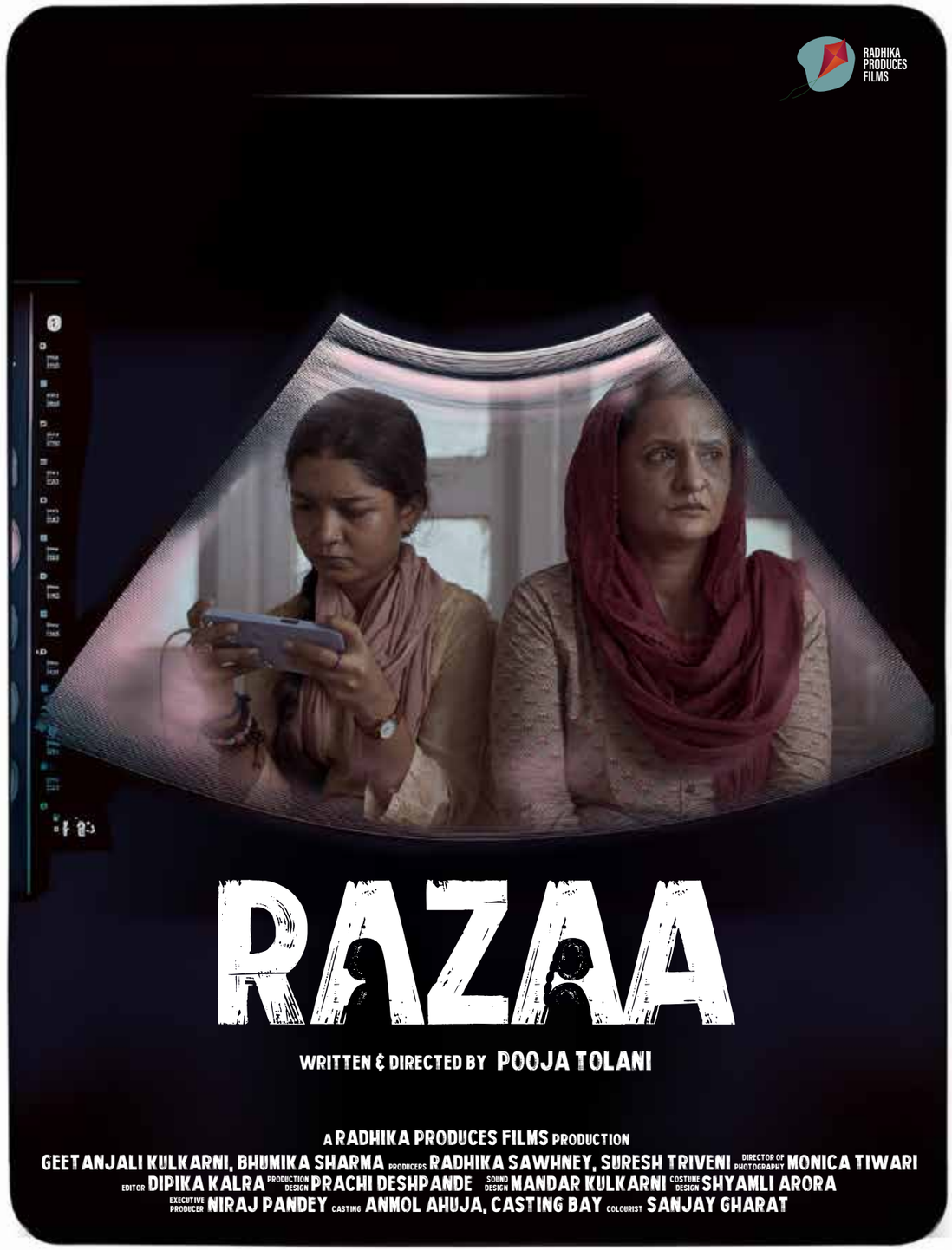
COSTUME
SHYAMLI ARORA

CASTING
CASTING BAY
ANMOL AHUJA

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
NIRAJ PANDEY

DI COLORIST
SANJAY GHARAT

POSTER


RADHIKA PRODUCES FILMS
RAZAA
WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY POOJA TOLANI
A RADHIKA PRODUCES FILMS PRODUCTION
GEETANJALI KULKARNI, BHUMIKA SHARMA PRODUCERS RADHIKA SAWHNEY, SURESH TRIVENI DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MONICA TIWARI
EDITOR DIPIKA KALRA PRODUCTION DESIGN PRACHI DESHPANDE SOUND DESIGN MANDAR KULKARNI COSTUME DESIGN SHYAMLI ARORA
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER NIRAJ PANDEY CASTING ANMOL AHUJA, CASTING BAY COLORIST SANJAY GHARAT

RADHIKA
PRODUCES
FILMS

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