Varanasi, on the Ganga · illustrative image

FROM INDIA WITH LOVE

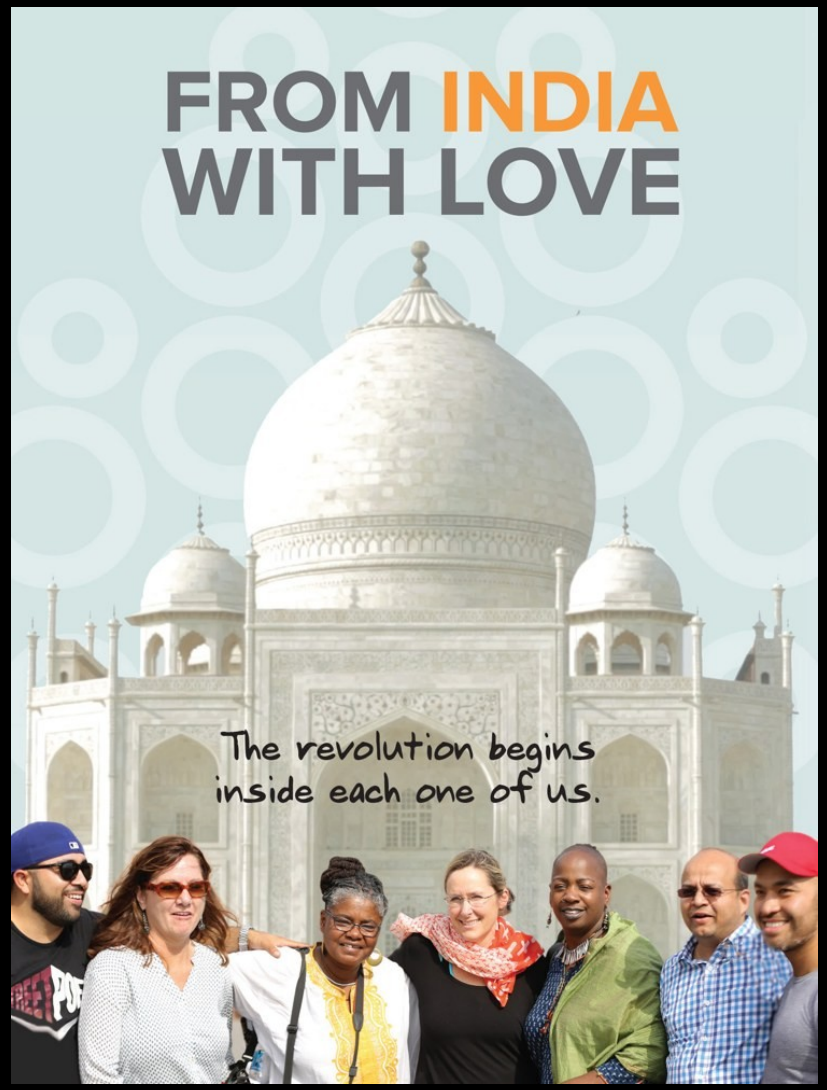
Films. Sojourns. Podcast.

If the whole world is a home, India is its prayer room.

Mandar Apte

Series Director & Producer, From India With Love

fromindiawithlove.org



Available on amazon

WHERE IT BEGAN

Our journey began with one film.

Six Americans touched by violence travelled to India together.

For two weeks they journeyed across India, *learning from its culture and wisdom traditions.*

Jason Quesada
Former gang member
Los Angeles

Scarlett Lewis
Lost her son Jesse
at Sandy Hook
Newtown

Ashara Ekundayo
Social entrepreneur
Activist for Black Lives
Oakland

Linda Couch
Scarlett's best friend
Atlanta

Dr. Angela Wellman
Music scholar
Activist for Black Lives
Oakland

Dr. Sonn Sam
Educator
Newark

IN THEIR WORDS

They came carrying grief. They went home carrying hope.

India has truly grounded me. During the trip, I felt the most hope since my personal tragedy, because there was so much love that I received here.

Scarlett Lewis

Lost her son Jesse at Sandy Hook · Newtown, CT

The revolution begins inside each one of us.

Jason Quesada

Former gang member · Los Angeles, CA

The trip to India was a moving experience. It will be inspirational for anyone who wants to move society towards nonviolence and love.

Dr. Angela Wellman

Music scholar · Activist for Black Lives · Oakland

Testimonials as recorded after the 2016 journey.

One film became a movement.

From Hollywood to Capitol Hill, and into classrooms and police departments across America, 2017–2026.

SCREENINGS & DIALOGUE

100+
screenings & engagements

30,000
people reached, including Amazon

LEADERSHIP SOJOURNS

75
US leaders, from mayors to police chiefs

4
leadership sojourns, 2017–18

PEACEBUILDING & TRUST

1,000
Ambassadors of Peace trained

10+
US cities, with LAPD and city partners

EDUCATION & WELLBEING

30+
schools licensing America250

2,000+
individual licences

SCREENINGS HOSTED BY

CAPITOL BUILDING · DEPARTMENT OF STATE · EUROPOL · WASHINGTON DC POLICE FOUNDATION · CITY OF LOS ANGELES · LAPD · Paramount Pictures · CHATTANOOGA SEAL TENNESSEE · PRINCETON UNIVERSITY · Jimmy and Rosalynn CARTER SCHOOL for Peace and Conflict Resolution GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY · U.S. EMBASSY New Delhi · MUMBAI

THE FIWL MODEL

One film. A lasting ripple effect.

The documentary is the beginning. Its greatest impact unfolds long after the credits roll.

1 Screenings & dialogue

Stories that bring difficult conversations into communities and institutions.

Proven: 100+ screenings · 30,000 reached

2 Transformative journeys

Leaders experience India's wisdom and return inspired to act.

Proven: 75 leaders · 4 sojourns

3 Peacebuilding & trust

Bringing people across divides into real human connection.

Proven: 1,000 Ambassadors of Peace · 10+ cities

FROM INDIA WITH LOVE

FILM

4 Education & wellbeing

Learning experiences that cultivate compassion, resilience and human connection.

Proven: 30+ institutions · breathwork in a peer-reviewed trial

5 Cultural diplomacy

Building bridges between India and the world through shared human experiences.

Hosted by: US Capitol · State Dept · Europol

6 A living library

Stories that continue to educate, connect and inspire across generations.

Next: country editions · character shorts · curricula · licensing

PEACEBUILDING PROGRAMME CLIENTS

County of Los Angeles Public Health · Los Angeles County OVP Office of Violence Prevention · GRYD Gang Reduction & Youth Development · City of Seattle · City of Rochester, NY · Orange County Community Foundation · Minneapolis Foundation

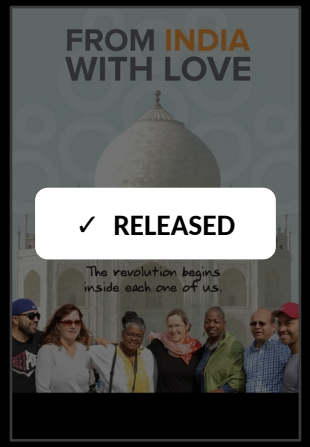
Sunrise on the Ganga · illustrative image

THE ANTHOLOGY · PHASE 1

One film made. Six nations next.

One global library of stories about healing, compassion and human connection.

One question in every nation: what happens when people divided by their experiences discover what connects them?



USA

amazon *since 2017*

United Kingdom

In development

Australia

In development

Canada

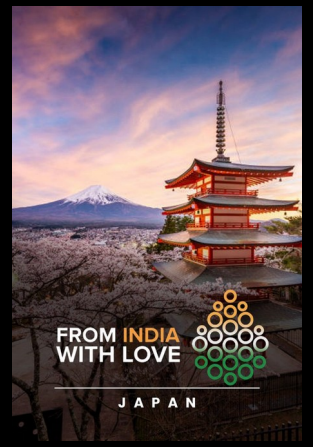
In development

France

In development

Brazil

In development



Japan

In development

Each country: one nation, six travellers, one journey through India, and a film that goes home with them.

Phase 1 begins with six nations. The model is built to welcome more.

Poster artwork illustrative

"I strongly support his proposal of making a similar film with people from … Britain, because we too have a very divided society."

Sir Mark Moody-Stuart
Former Chairman, Shell and Anglo American

Poster artwork illustrative

FIWL UK · THIS CHAPTER

UK: a new chapter in human connection.

Why Britain first

1. **A timely story**
   Youth violence, social division, and the work of rebuilding trust.
2. **A living India connection**
   Deep cultural ties and a large, living Indian diaspora.
3. **Relationships already in place**
   The FIWL USA edition was screened in London, Glasgow and Edinburgh, including at RSA House. Partnerships for the UK edition are being explored with the British Council, the RSA Fellowship network and Friends of India Society International (FISI UK).

WHAT THIS CHAPTER DELIVERS

- 75–90-minute feature documentary
- Six 10-minute character shorts
- **Be The Change** educational module
- UK screening and dialogue tour

Objective: *Demonstrate a repeatable model for storytelling, education and trust-building across countries.*

UK SCREENINGS

In discussion: The Nehru Centre, London · RSA House

Prospective: House of Lords · Scottish Parliament · Oxford · Cambridge · LSE · UCL

Six strangers. One journey. Two weeks.

Six Britons whose paths might otherwise never cross.

ILLUSTRATIVE CHARACTERS · CASTING NOT YET COMPLETED

Survivor

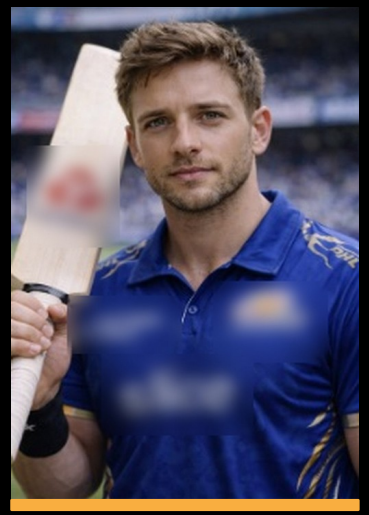
Knife-crime survivor. Wonders if her street will ever feel safe.

Former gang member

Mentors youth who remind him of himself. Wonders if he can reach them in time.

Police officer

A British Sikh. Searching for what her family left behind in India.



Cricketer

A hero to youth in two nations. Wonders where he truly belongs.

LGBTQ+ activist

Fights to be seen, and carries the cost. Searching for a place to rest.

Educator

Whose pupils arrive already afraid. Wants to give them a reason to hope.

Guided through India by Mandar Apte, series director of From India With Love, who also appears in the film as the travellers' guide.

Faces are AI-generated, not real participants; uniforms are generic, not any police force. Travellers are selected by the creative team; partners and sponsors may nominate candidates.

Two weeks experiencing India's culture and wisdom traditions.

An illustrative route. The final itinerary will be designed for the deepest healing and transformation.

Map for illustration; route indicative.

1. **Mumbai** Days 1–3
   Arrival. Six strangers meet, and hear the human stories of 26/11 from survivors and families willing to take part.
2. **Indore** Days 4–7
   With Ujjain and Bhopal, and the rural life around them.
3. **Varanasi** Days 8–11
   Dawn on the ghats, where life and death share one riverbank, and the villages beyond.
4. **Kerala** Days 12–14
   Ancient temples, Kalaripayattu, Ayurveda and the backwaters. Each says, on camera, what they will do back home.

BEFORE THE JOURNEY

Document participants' back stories, build trust within the group, and set intentions for the journey ahead.

DURING · 2 WEEKS

Through yoga, meditation, breathwork and dialogue, participants experience the magic of India, then design service projects to carry their learning home.

AFTER THE JOURNEY

Follow participants as they translate their experience into acts of compassion, service and trust-building in their chosen spaces.

An inner journey and an outer one.

In India, strangers discover connection through service, shared experiences and looking within.

Stills from From India With Love (USA), filmed in India in 2016.

FIWL UK · THREE WAYS TO TAKE PART

This journey needs a village. *Join hands, leave a legacy.*

DONATE

Fund the journey

- Donations are planned through charitable partners in the US, UK and India, subject to final agreements.
- Gifts support the film, education and community-impact work.
- Eligible gifts may qualify for tax relief under applicable laws.

IN RETURN

Lasting social impact and screen credit, aligned with your CSR and philanthropic goals.

INVEST

Share in the film's returns

- Interested in supporting the project as an investor?
- Contact us to learn about potential opportunities.
- Subject to applicable regulations.

IN RETURN

Potential film revenues and social impact, subject to final agreements.

PARTNER

Lend what you do best

- In kind: flights, hotels, travel and media support.
- NGO and community partners for the travellers' service projects.
- Host screenings, or bring the educational module to your school, police force or organisation.

IN RETURN

Partner credit across the film and UK tour, and a visible role in its impact.

All three routes can contribute to the project, subject to their legal and financial arrangements. Terms are proposals only, subject to final documents prepared by counsel. Nothing here is an offer of securities.

FIWL UK · SAFEGUARDS

Trust built into the model.

People who have lived through violence deserve care, consent and honesty at every step.

1 Trauma-informed care

A trauma-informed care specialist travels with the group, with support before, during and after the journey.

2 Consent and dignity

Informed consent at every stage of filming, and the right to withdraw from further filming.

3 Editorial independence

The creative team (Mandar Apte as series director, with UK and India co-directors) selects every traveller. Partners and sponsors never influence content.

4 Honest imagery

AI-generated images are always labelled. No real person is shown as a participant without consent.

5 Follow-through

A participant-engagement coordinator supports every traveller through the eight weeks of service at home.

6 Governance

Gifts will be received through charitable partners in the US, UK and India, with separate project accounting and regular financial reporting.

The vision is in place. Your support will help build the team.

SERIES DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

Mandar Apte

- 18 years at Shell, managing GameChanger social innovation and impact investments
- Founder, Cities4Peace (2018–present)
- Director, From India With Love (USA, 2017)
- Fellow, Royal Society of Arts (2023–present)
- Adjunct Senior Industry Fellow, RMIT University (2024–present)
- Winner, Ashoka League of Intrapreneurs Award (2012)

"I've been enormously impressed by the work [Mandar has] done bringing people from different sectors of society together."

Sir Mark Moody-Stuart · Former Chairman, Shell and Anglo American

THE TEAM

Once funded, we will hire co-directors and production houses in both countries.

Together, they will deliver an award-calibre film.

UNITED KINGDOM

Co-director · Production house

Leads casting interviews and back stories, and shapes the story for British audiences and the UK tour.

INDIA

Co-director · Production house

Designs the transformational experiences, manages local permissions and in-country production, and brings cultural depth to the journey.

Leslie Knott

Creative Producer

Holly Ritchie

Creative Producer

If the whole world is a home,
India is its prayer room.

The next journey begins with you.

DONATE **INVEST** **PARTNER**

Interested in supporting the next journey? Email info@chooselove.in

Mandar Apte Series Director & Producer

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