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Pacific Film Archive presents

A Tribute to

Indian Film Director

Ritwik Ghatak

The Runaway (Bari Theke Paliye, March 15)



E Flat (Komal Gandhar, March 16)



Festival of India 1985

With only eight feature films, Ritwik Ghatak exerted a profound influence on postwar Indian cinema. Deeply committed to the plight of the people of his homeland, East Bengal (now Bangladesh), Ghatak skillfully blends his radical political expression with popular culture—melodrama, songs, and dance. PFA is pleased to present the West Coast premiere of five films of Ritwik Ghatak, who has been hailed by Elliot Stein in *Film Comment* as "India's greatest filmmaker."

Wednesday, March 13

In Wheeler Auditorium

HIDDEN STAR (Meghe Dhaka Tara, 1958)

7:30, Admission: \$3.50

Neeta, a hard-working young woman sacrifices everything, including the man she loves, for her struggling refugee family.

Friday, March 15

THE RUNAWAY (Bari Theke Paliye, 1959)

7:00, 9:25

Calcutta and its inhabitants are seen through the eyes of a 10-year-old who flees a small village to escape the cruelty of his father.

Saturday, March 16

E FLAT (Komal Gandhar, 1961)

7:30, 9:35

A young refugee from East Bengal tries to find the meaning of patriotism in a divided country, while touring with a progressive theater troupe, whose leading actress also lives with painful memories of her childhood in East Bengal.

Wednesday, March 20

THE MECHANICAL MAN (Ajantrik, 1958)

Lecture by Indian film director Mani Kaul 7:30—Film and Lecture 10:00—Film Only

A humorous tale of a man poised between the machine age and the traditional world, *THE MECHANICAL MAN* depicts the life of a taxi driver with a passionate attachment to his jalopy.

Friday, March 22

REASON, DEBATE, AND A TALE (Jukti, Takko aar Gappo, 1974)

7:00, 9:15

Ghatak himself stars in this semi-autobiographical story as an alcoholic and despondent intellectual who sets off on a journey across war-torn Bangladesh.

Presented in cooperation with the UC Berkeley Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, The Indian Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, and the Directorate of Film Festivals, New Delhi.

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The Mechanical Man (Ajantrik, March 20)

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