

Avid Learning presents The Art of Filmmaking: A masterclass for independent filmmakers which explores the creative processes involved in the making of a film and examines the various stages and aspects of filmmaking with Film Director, Writer and Producer, Dev Benegal, who was the director of the National Award winning film *English, August*

“It’s difficult to really like a film that you didn’t like making.”
— Tuesday Weld

For Immediate Release

Film is an inherently illusionist and enormously powerful medium, one that even acknowledged masters of the form claim to not fully understand. It is possibly the most pervasive and influential art form in modern times. It embodies and conveys the values and beliefs of the culture within which and for which it is made. Movies will often shape themselves to appeal to perceived cultural attitudes, and as a result they will not only reflect their culture but also actively influence it. They are not only used for entertainment value, but also to educate and enlighten viewers.

In the past, independent filmmaking was a highly regarded, secretive, risky, and expensive practice. However, with the advancement of emerging digital technologies, the practice of filmmaking is now becoming more easily accessible. Filmmaking titans, like Academy Award Winners Roger Deakins and Peter Jackson, have not only shifted from using celluloid film and antiquated technology, but have also championed digital film and its streamlined workflow. The art of filmmaking is now for the people.

The description of the masterclass is as below:

Avid Learning presents The Art of Filmmaking, a masterclass for independent filmmakers with Film Director, Writer and Producer **Dev Benegal**. From concept to creation to exhibition, Dev will discuss the creative processes involved in making a film and all stages of its production. Dev’s film, “English, August”, won National Film Award for Best Feature Film (English) in 1995. It was the first Indian film to be acquired for distribution by 20th Century Fox.

Filmmaking involves a number of different and separate stages. In this masterclass, Dev will explore the entire journey a film takes from an idea to the development of an initial story through to screenwriting, to casting, preparing for the production, the production, principal photography also known as shooting, sound recording, editing, and finally distribution. He will examine the technical aspects of filmmaking, emphasizing on how decisions regarding cameras, lenses, light and location etc. affect the tone or style of a film.

The strength of this masterclass is discovering that part of filmmaking not taught in film school. What is the journey of a filmmaker and how do they negotiate that rollercoaster ride? How do they navigate expectations, struggles and successes? Dev’s strength and unique insights are taking participants through the real world of filmmaking. He will also examine the artistic and dramatic aspects involved in visualizing the screenplay and detail the methods filmmakers use to add to a film’s aesthetic value. How do the creative visionaries involved in the making of a film, including the director, the production designer, and the director of photography, collectively decide how the audience should feel throughout the film? And what cinematic techniques do they employ to trigger those emotions? He will also discuss various marketing strategies

independent filmmakers use to promote their films.

Session Highlights include:

- Writing the Screenplay: Finding an idea, creating characters and story structure
- Making the Movie: Creating a budget, casting, choosing equipment, locations etc.
- Basics of Directing and Cinematography
- Post Processing: Editing, Sound Recording etc.
- Marketing and Promotion of the film

Where: Essar House - Podium, [11 KK Marg, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai 400034](#)

When: Saturday, 1st December, 2018; 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Fee: Rs. 1000 (including lunch) | Rs. 750 for students with valid Student ID

RSVP: www.avidlearning.in; register@avidlearning.in / +919769937710 (prior registration required)

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THE ART OF FILMMAKING
with Dev Benegal



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About the Faculty

Dev Benegal (director, writer) is considered the pioneer of the next generation of Indian cinema with his award-winning debut feature film *English, August* (1994) acknowledged as a landmark film in contemporary Indian cinema. The film won India's highest award in cinema- The National Award and was selected at MoMA's New Director's New Films. It was the first Indian acquisition of 20th Century Fox.

His feature "Road, Movie" was opening night film at Berlin Film Festival (Generation) and was produced by Ross Katz (*Lost in Translation*) and Fred Berger (*La La Land*). The project was an official selection at Atelier de Cannes at the Cannes International Festival and was among the first features to be distributed in the US by Robert De Niro & Jane Rosenthal's Tribeca Films.

Dev is a long time script advisor to the eQuinoxe Europe screenwriting workshop for film professionals.

About AVID

Avid Learning, a public programming platform and cultural arm of the Essar Group, has conducted over 900 programs and connected with more than 100,000 individuals since its inception in 2009. Driven by the belief that Learning Never Stops, AVID's multiple formats like Workshops, Panel Discussions, Gallery Walkthroughs, and Festival Platforms create a dynamic and interactive atmosphere that stimulates intellectual and creative growth across the fields of Culture & Heritage, Literature, Art and Innovation.

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The Art of Filmmaking with Dev Benegal | 1st December 2018 | Essar House

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