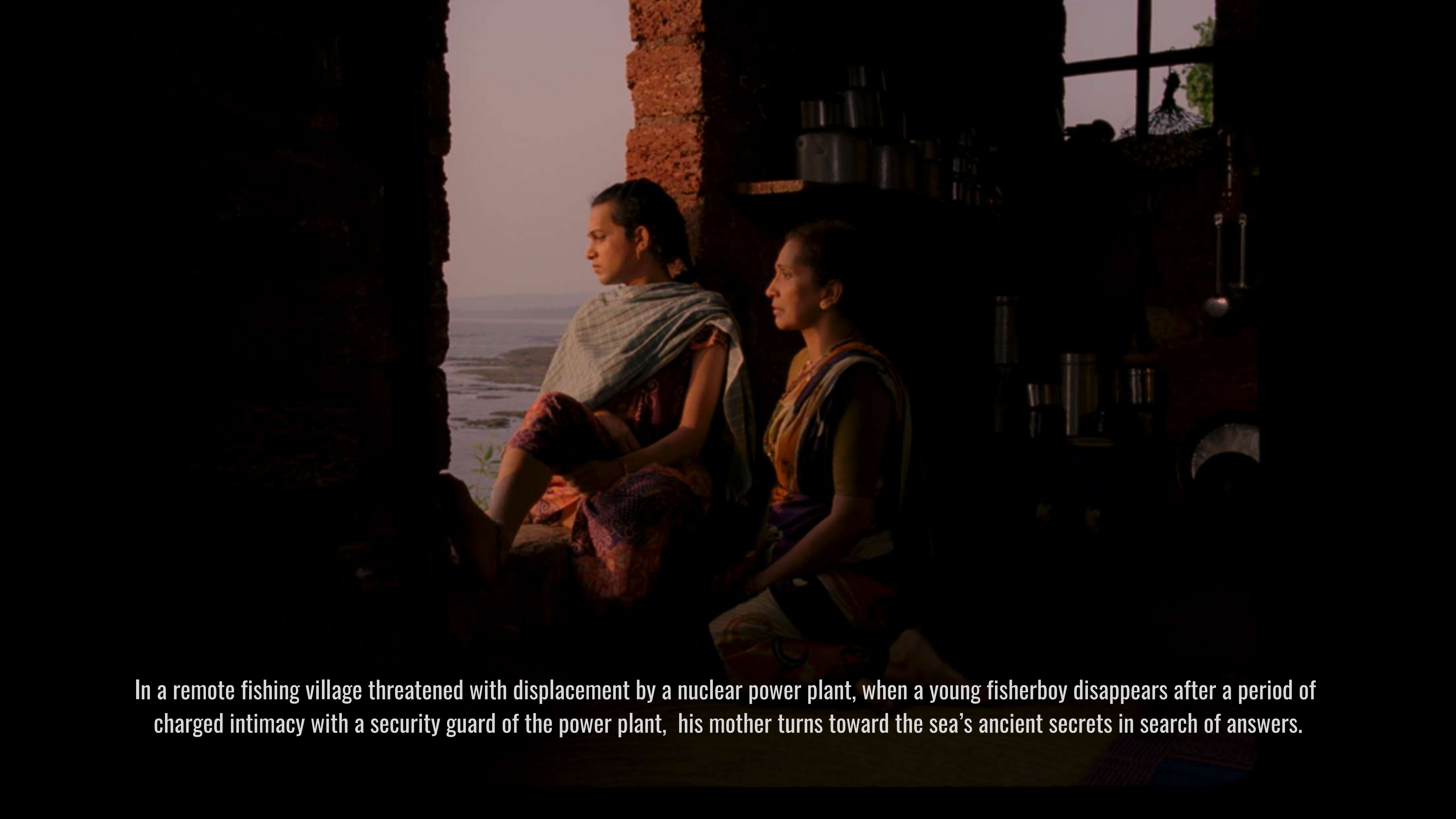




SWARNAPUCHIRI



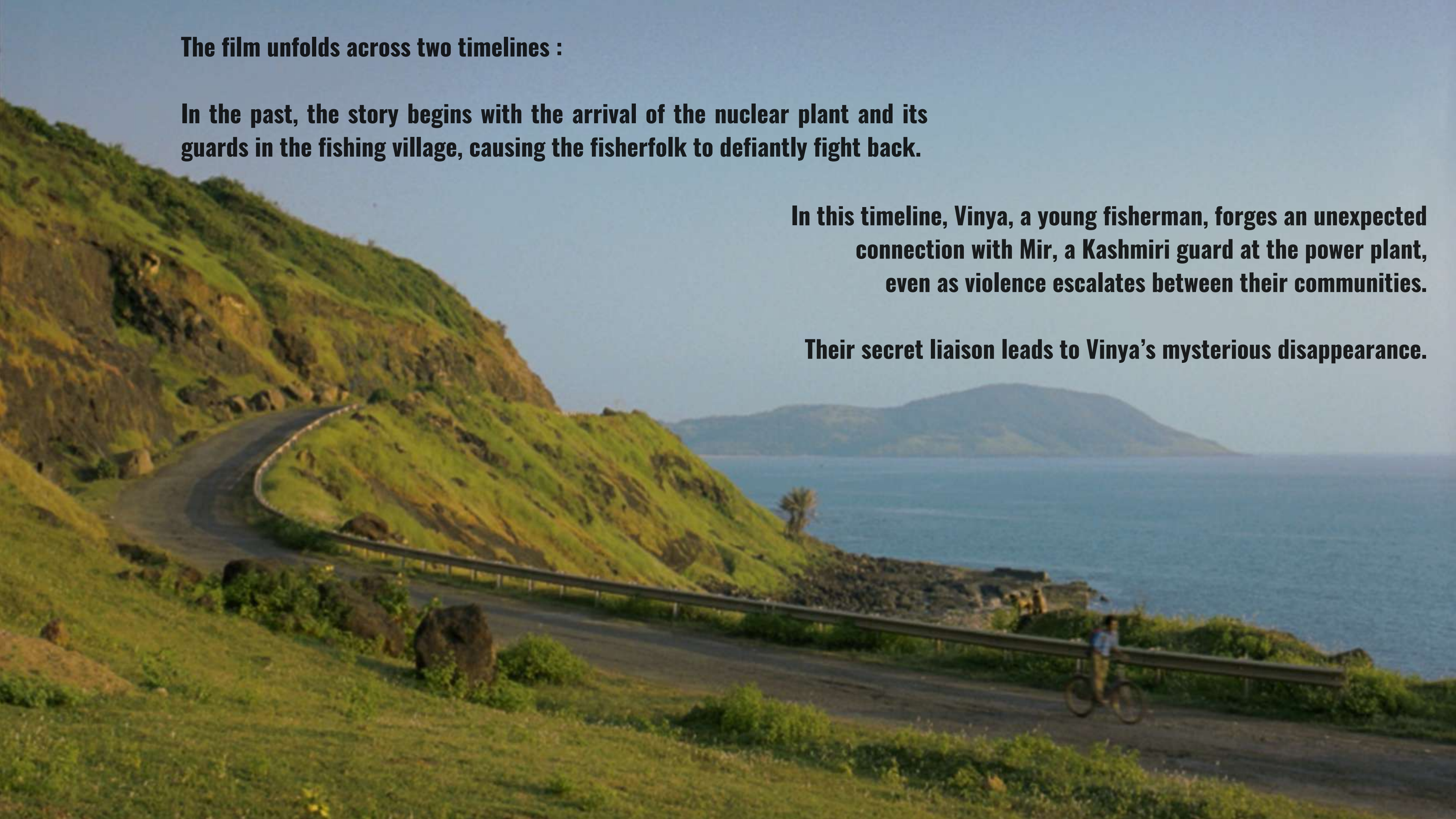
In a remote fishing village threatened with displacement by a nuclear power plant, when a young fisherboy disappears after a period of charged intimacy with a security guard of the power plant, his mother turns toward the sea's ancient secrets in search of answers.

The film unfolds across two timelines :

In the past, the story begins with the arrival of the nuclear plant and its guards in the fishing village, causing the fisherfolk to defiantly fight back.

In this timeline, Vinya, a young fisherman, forges an unexpected connection with Mir, a Kashmiri guard at the power plant, even as violence escalates between their communities.

Their secret liaison leads to Vinya's mysterious disappearance.



The timeline in the present traces the aftermath of Vinya's disappearance.

Parvati, his resolute mother, and Ajju, his reclusive younger brother, embark on a search for answers, guided by Leela - a trans woman healer, who can commune with birds, animals and the divine.

As the tensions between the fisherfolk and the nuclear power plant continue to rise, and their search grows more desperate, they confront apparitions, mythology and grief, as folklore and reality entwine.



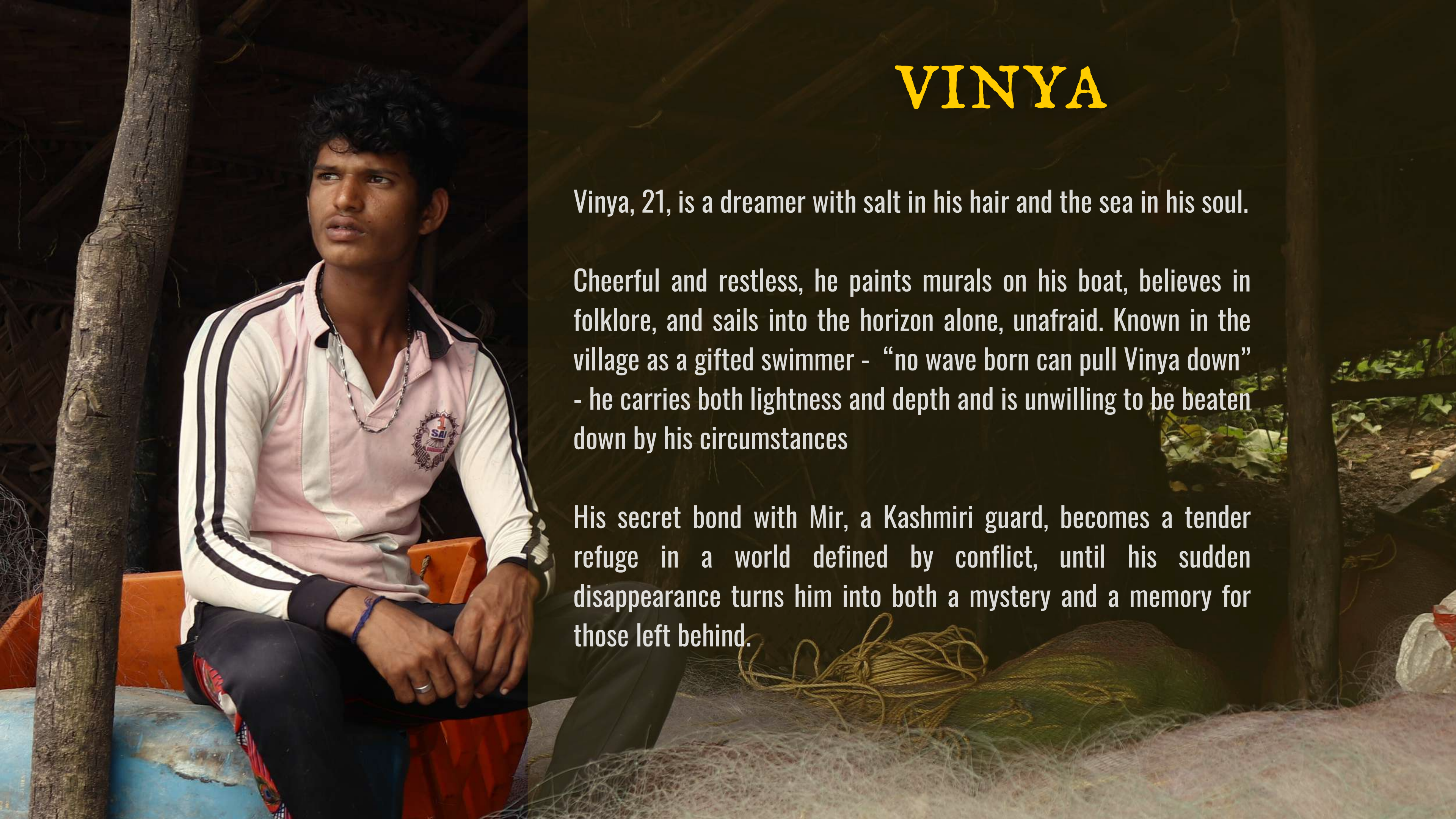
PARVATI

45-year-old Parvati is the heart of the story - She is a fierce single mother who runs her fishing business and her household with equal resolve.

She embodies both resilience and vulnerability: while she fights corporate and state forces threatening her village, she also wages a private battle to unearth the circumstances leading to her elder son's disappearance.

Her journey is one of grief reshaped into resilience, and faith offering not answers, but the strength to keep searching.





VINYA

Vinya, 21, is a dreamer with salt in his hair and the sea in his soul.

Cheerful and restless, he paints murals on his boat, believes in folklore, and sails into the horizon alone, unafraid. Known in the village as a gifted swimmer - “no wave born can pull Vinya down” - he carries both lightness and depth and is unwilling to be beaten down by his circumstances

His secret bond with Mir, a Kashmiri guard, becomes a tender refuge in a world defined by conflict, until his sudden disappearance turns him into both a mystery and a memory for those left behind.

MIR

Mir, 30, is a Kashmiri refugee working as a security guard at the nuclear plant.

Stoic and reticent on the surface, he carries the weight of exile, loss, and guilt - haunted by the violence that displaced his family, and by his complicity in enforcing the same brutality on the Koli villagers.

His chance encounter with Vinya sparks a secret bond that offers him tenderness amid turmoil.

Yet, bound by fear and duty, Mir becomes both a keeper of secrets and a catalyst in Vinya's disappearance.





LEELA

Leela, 38, is a trans woman who lives on the margins of the village yet radiates a presence impossible to ignore.

The fisherfolk both love and revere her - as she is believed to carry the divine gift of communing with birds, animals, and the unseen.

For Parvati, she is a sister-like confidante; for Aju, a source of comfort and guidance.

As the story unfolds, Leela becomes the bridge between myth and reality, embodying resilience against trans-erasure while keeping alive a faith that the world too often tries to silence.

AJJU

At 10, Ajju is a reclusive, sensitive boy who cycles along the cliffs to keep his grief at bay.

His brother has disappeared without a trace, sending his mother into a spiral of grief and silence, shutting him out, leaving him feeling further unseen.

His solitude and loneliness make him an observer of the world's mysteries, and when he begins to encounter strange apparitions, he becomes an unlikely keeper of secrets.

Through Ajju, the story channels innocence, intuition, and the possibility of perceiving what adults cannot.



SWARNAPUCHHRI

Swarnapuchhri is a mythical golden-tailed mermaid believed by the Koli fisherfolk to rescue souls lost at sea.

Existing somewhere between folklore, faith, and imagination, she becomes a quiet spiritual presence flowing through the film - a figure of longing, protection, and escape.

For Vinya, who feels deeply tethered to the sea and alienated from the world around him, the myth offers both refuge and possibility.

As violence, grief, and disappearance engulf the village, the legend of Swarnapuchhri begins to blur the boundaries between reality and fantasy, transforming into a symbol of hope against erasure and despair.









RITWIK GOSWAMI

Director & Writer

Ritwik Goswami is a Mumbai-based writer and director working across fiction and documentary. Rooted in lived experience, his work explores queerness, labour, ecology and displacement. His music video Pishdaramad screened at international queer film festivals. He is currently developing his debut feature Swarnapuchhri, which won the West Meets East Screenplay Lab at the Dhaka International Film Festival (2023), and was selected for the QueerFrames Screenwriting Lab and NFDC Film Bazaar Co-Production Market (2025). His short fiction project Like Fire, Like Wind was a finalist at the Hong Kong International Film Festival's Asian Short Film Fund (2025).



NIDHI SALIAN

Producer

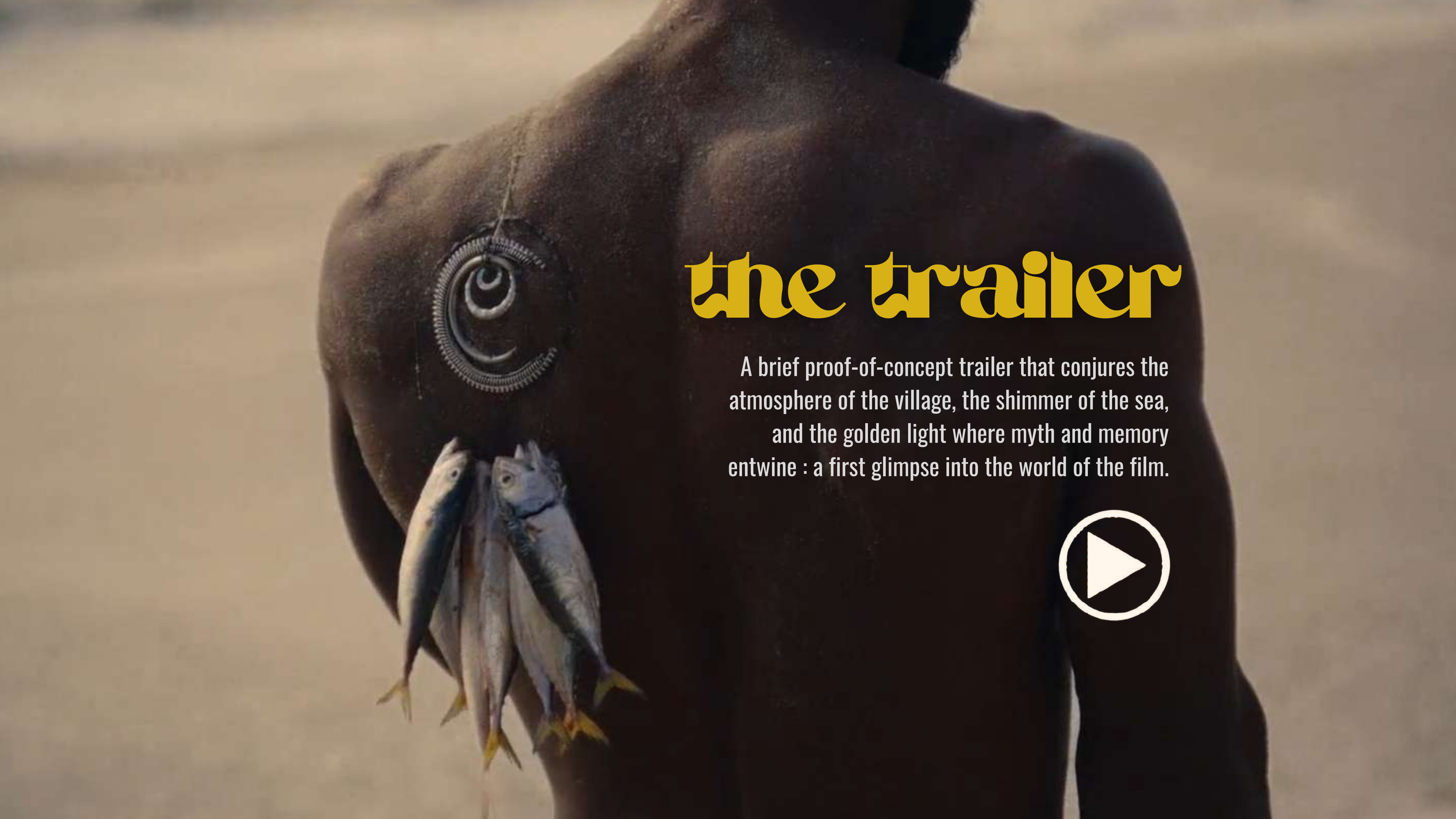
Nidhi Girish Salian is an Indian producer and creative director working across fiction, documentary, and hybrid storytelling. A former lawyer, she was part of VICE India's founding team, producing reportage-driven work across Asia on identity, gender, and subcultures. Her credits include Kya Bolta Bantai, Finding Love, C for Crime (Prime Video), and Netflix's Indian Predator: Murder in a Courtroom. She later served as Creative Director at VICE Studios Asia-Pacific, overseeing projects including Prime Video's GLAAD-nominated Rainbow Rishta. She is currently in post-production on her debut fiction feature Machhli, and developing Swarnapuchhri and Consumed.



PAYAL KAPADIA

Executive Producer

Payal Kapadia's first fiction-feature All We Imagine as Light won the Grand Prix at Festival de Cannes 2024. This ode to friendship and Mumbai was nominated for Best Director & Best Foreign Language Film at the Golden Globes 2025 and won numerous awards, including Best Film at the Asian Film Awards 2025 in Hong Kong. Her first documentary, A Night of Knowing Nothing won the Golden Eye at Cannes in 2021. Payal produces her own films and is currently also producing three feature projects with emerging directors from India.

A close-up, back view of a person's dark skin. A large, detailed tattoo of a fish is visible on the upper back. A circular pendant with a spiral design hangs from a cord around the neck. The background is a soft, out-of-focus golden light.

the trailer

A brief proof-of-concept trailer that conjures the atmosphere of the village, the shimmer of the sea, and the golden light where myth and memory entwine : a first glimpse into the world of the film.

