

BOBBY UNDERGROUND

SAM SIBIN

It's gonna be a great day, today!

Karma Café

A film by Vinod Bharathan

MEDIA KIT



LOGLINE

Karma Cafe is a fun, moving, realistic drama about a caring man managing a French café in an Indian town with hope and faith as a business plan.

SYNOPSIS

A humble man returns from his hard-working job overseas to his hometown in India to run a French Cafe located in a place that clashes with old values and contemporary mindset. He faces unforeseen obstacles every minute of the day due to his inexperience as a restaurateur, yet feels that his optimism is going to pay off in the end. The guests at the cafe bring their own struggles and levity that makes the day worthwhile for the owner and the quirky waiter. Despite the owners' optimism towards his new business, the chances of the cafe surviving another day seem very slim.



DIRECTORS STATEMENT

How do we put a mirror in front of society in such a way that they get to see the angles less explored or look at the good and the bad side of it with levity and understanding? This was my prime focus while writing this script.

Welcome to the Parts Unknown.

The film made primarily for my home audience in India explores the difference that occurs between classes, often undiscussed, but left to generalization. Every movie that I have seen try to represent this situation ends up either being over the top or too gimmicky and often miss the purpose by the end of its playtime. I just wanted a copy-paste of a real situation, a talk over the coffee table by people of different classes or groups, giving a good indication of everyone's own hustle to fit in a society that is embracing globalization at breakneck speed without reading the instruction manual.

I have always believed in Karma, and this is my fourth instalment (2 short films and a feature) on the role of karma in our lives and the importance to be aware of its presence and rewards. The spine of the story is again about karma and how the cafe owner benefits from it. The other elements that will be the meat of the story will carry, humour, levity, moral questions, and everyday matter relatable to the audience of any part of the modern world.

We filmed Karma Café on digital cameras, but we used vintage lenses from ca.1945 and we used natural and available light available on the set. The idea was to create visuals with high contrast that resembles a Caravaggio painting.

This film is also a tribute to Antony Bourdain whom I'm a great fan of.



DIRECTORS BIOGRAPHY

Vinod Bharathan is a Copenhagen-based Indian filmmaker. After moving to Denmark, he joined Copenhagen media school to learn film production in 2009. His idea was to apply admission to the prestigious National Film School that educated directors like Lars Von Trier, Thomas Vinterberg, and Susanne Bier. As, when he applied, he was not a citizen of Denmark, and therefore would have to pay the huge stipend himself. He decided instead to spend that time and amount on self-teaching filmmaking by making self-financed short films.

He is usually multi-tasking on the entire divisions of his film projects like producing, filming, editing and music score, often trying to restrict himself from the luxuries of filmmaking.

He made his first feature film shot in India following the Dogme 95 rules of filmmaking by Lars Von Trier and Thomas Vinterberg. The film titled KARMA CARTEL (2015) won a few film awards and was picked up for a nationwide limited theatrical release in India.

Karma Cafe is his second official feature film project which has completed post-production recently. Karma cafe was shot on digital through vintage lenses and filmed using available natural light. The pandemic had almost destroyed the production as the production was hit with lockdown and filming restrictions imposed by the state they were filming in. This forced the already thin crew to an even thinner team, often not exceeding 4 people, including the cast. Karma Cafe introduces an array of first-time actors including the Cafe-Owner and the waiter, supported by a handful of the previously experienced cast.



CAST

Bobby Underground as the Cafe owner. (First Film)

Sam Sibin as the Waiter. (Queen)

Shani Shaki as the Actor. (Karma Cartel)

Eliza Maria Joseph as the Date. (First Film)

Dinesh Prabhakar as the Politician. (Industry veteran)

Sandeep Johnson as Politicians friend. (First Film)

Franko Manjilla as the Milkman. (Karma Cartel)

Suraj Ramakrishnan as the Reporter. (Karma Cartel)

Rishi Karthik as the Bienalle Artist. (Karma Cartel)

Madan Babu as the Bank Official. (Karma Cartel)

Haripriya Paniker and **Cleo Suzan** as Influencers. (First Film)

John Joe, Ghazal Ahamed, Sabareesh, as filmmakers. (First Film)

Archana Tommy as The Girl With Camera. (First Film)

Dj Khan Varkala, Ajimon Nair and Vinod Bharathan as Actors friend. (First Film)

Sulfikar Beevi as the Chef. (First Film)

Mahesh Manohar as the Police Officer. (First Film)

lcchu Vintage, Sassu Vintage, as Lapse Moosa and assistant. (First Film)

JayaParakash as Photographer. (First Film)



PRODUCTION TEAM

Story, Screenplay, Direction, Editing,
Cinematography and Music
by **Vinod Bharathan**

Assistant Cameraman - **Rahul Raj**

PRODUCTION HOUSE

KOCHI TOWN FILMS, INDIA
KUBENRAVN MEDIA, COPENHAGEN

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