

PRESENTS:

# SALIM BABA

## THE STORY:

Salim Muhammad is a 55 year old man living with his wife and five children in the Northern slums of Kolkata, India. Since the age of 10 he has made a living screening discarded film scraps in his surrounding neighborhoods using an 1897 hand cranked projector mounted onto a portable miniature theatre.

Resisting the offers of collector's worldwide to purchase his projector, Salim has continued providing the local children with the only movie viewing they can afford while giving their parents and grandparent's a living reminder of their childhoods. But how long can he carry on? In an age when the technology of cinema, which defined the 20th Century, is being eclipsed by the digital technology of today, this pied piper of cinema shares the dwindling fate of not only film as we once knew it, but that of traditional crafts worldwide.

Made up of beautifully shot interviews with Salim and his family, intimate footage of Salim working at home, and screenings of his films on the streets of Kolkata **SALIM BABA** is a documentary portrait of this living link between the birth of cinema and the digital age of today.

Intended for the international film festival circuit **SALIM BABA** will run between 10-15 minutes long.

## THE FILMMAKERS:

### **Tim Sternberg**, Producer / Director / Editor

Tim Sternberg started working in the editing rooms of Francis Ford Coppola's legendary American Zoetrope Studios while still in high school. Since moving to New York he has worked in positions as diverse as sound effects recordist on Nora Ephron's *SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE* and Robert Benton's *THE HUMAN STAIN*, re-editing the 1992 Academy Award winning *MEDITERRANEO* for US release, and acting as a script consultant for American Zoetrope, IFP, and Channel Four Films amongst others. Most recently he worked as the picture editor on Coppola's *MEGALOPOLIS*, music editor on Milos Forman's *GOYA'S GHOSTS* and the recent Silver Docs Rx Grand Jury Award Winning *THE BLOOD OF YINGZHOU DISTRICT* directed by Ruby Yang. **SALIM BABA**, shot over four days in Kolkata, India is his first film as a director.

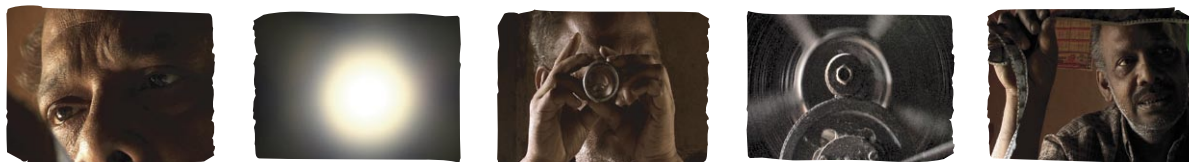
### **Francisco Bello**, Producer / Camera / Editor

Since graduating from the Cooper Union School of Art, Francisco has worked in the post-production of feature films for Kevin Smith, Michael Moore, and George Butler. Presently working as an editor, Francisco's recent credits include the feature length 2006 IFP Market selection, *IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ORPHEUS*, *BETTY LA FLACA* (HBO), and *JULIETA Y RAMON* ( Showtime). He is launching Ropa Vieja Films with **SALIM BABA**, which he shot and co-produced with Timothy Sternberg in Kolkata, India and *MY FAVORITE ACTOR*, his first documentary feature as a director. Presentations as works in progress have awarded him fellowships in 2006 from the PBS/WGBH Producer's Academy, the NALIP NY Documentary Mentorship Program, and a production grant from the Urban Arts Initiative.

### **Raja Dey**, Producer / Camera

Raja Dey is a freelance cinematographer and documentary filmmaker based in Calcutta, India. As a cameraman his experience ranges beyond documentaries and into narrative fiction, corporate video, commercials, and music videos. Since 2001 Raja has worked as a faculty member at Chitrabani, the social communications centre founded in part by world-renowned filmmaker Satyajit Ray. Raja has recently directed a feature length docudrama on the subject of female infanticide in rural India, *TAMANA*.

For more information on **SALIM BABA**, please write to [salim@rv-films.com](mailto:salim@rv-films.com).



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## FUNDING:

Ropa Vieja Films is currently seeking financial contributions towards the completion of **SALIM BABA**. Via our fiscal sponsorship through the Independent Feature Project, all contributions are tax deductible!

### Donations of \$ 10,000 & Up

Your credit as an "Executive Producer" in the credits of **SALIM BABA**.

10 DVD copies of the final film.

Acknowledgment and/or prominent logo display on the **SALIM BABA** page at rv-films.com.

### Donations of \$ 5,000.00 - \$ 10,000.00

Your credit or logo as a "Producer" in the credits of **SALIM BABA**.

5 DVD copies of the final film.

Your credit listed on print media advertisements and

Acknowledgment and/or logo display on the **SALIM BABA** page at rv-films.com.

### Donations of \$ 1,000.00 - \$ 5,000.00

Your credit listed as an "Associate Producer" in the credits of **SALIM BABA**.

1 DVD copy of the final film.

Acknowledgment on the **SALIM BABA** page at rv-films.com

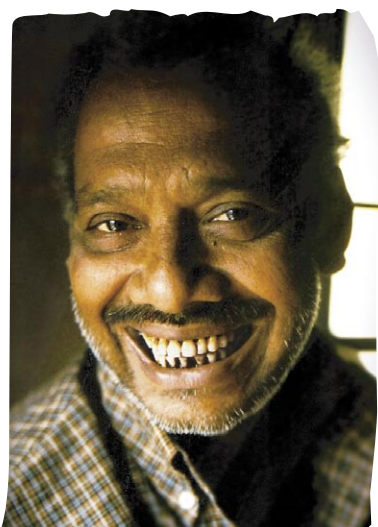
### Donations of \$ 500.00 - \$ 1,000.00

Your credit listed within the "Special Thanks" section of **SALIM BABA**'s credits.

Acknowledgement on the **SALIM BABA** page at rv-films.com.

### Donations of \$0 - \$5,000

Acknowledgement on the **SALIM BABA** page at rv-films.com.



Help us bring Salim's small screen to the big screen!!!

Please use the attached Fiscal Sponsorship form to make your donation.

Information for all forms of payments beyond standard checks is listed at the bottom of the page that follows.

For more information on **SALIM BABA**, please write to [salim@rv-films.com](mailto:salim@rv-films.com).



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## FISCAL SPONSORSHIP CONTRIBUTION FORM

Fiscal Sponsorship Provided by Independent Feature Project (IFP)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

This contribution is to be used to support the following project:

**SALIM BABA,**  
Francisco Bello, Producer

**As per the guidelines of the IFP, we are required that you agree to the following guidelines in connection with your contribution:** I understand and agree that my contribution is made on the condition that Independent Feature Project (IFP) retains control and discretion over the use of the funds. I understand that any contributions made towards the completion of Salim Baba does not entitle me to any artistic control or financial shares in the final product. I understand that **SALIM BABA**, if produced, might never be released. I understand that my contribution may be released by IFP to **SALIM BABA** before the balance of the budgeted production funds is available to Francisco Bello (as the producer of the project).

Signature of Donor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Make all checks Payable to **IFP Fiscal Sponsorship**, with **SALIM BABA** written in the memo portion of your check, and the completed contribution form to the following:

Mr. Rupert Chiarella, Fiscal Sponsorship Manager  
Independent Feature Project (IFP)  
104 W. 29th Street, 12th Floor  
New York, NY 10001

or you can send your check directly to the address below, and it will be forwarded to IFP.

Francisco Bello  
Re: **SALIM BABA** - Ropa Vieja Films  
43-33 41 Street 1D  
Sunnyside, NY 11104

As web addresses may change, for up to date information on making online donations, please write to Francisco Bello; francisco@rv-films.com.

For contributions other than check or online, please contact Mr. Rupert Chiarella; rchiarella@ifp.org

IFP and Ropa Vieja Films will send you a letter of recognition upon receipt of your donation formally acknowledging your tax deductible contribution.

For more information on **SALIM BABA**, please write to salim@rv-films.com.