

BIO

Shortest

(72 Words)

Nandita Das has acted in 40 films in 10 languages. She has directed *Firaaq* (2008) and *Manto* (2018). She has served twice as a jury member at the Cannes Film Festival among others. She is a strong advocate for issues of social justice. Her third film, *Zwigato*, explores the life of a food-delivery rider and his family. After premiering at various festivals, it will be released in India on 17th March 2023.

Short

(210 Words)

Nandita Das has acted in more than 40 feature films in 10 different languages. Her directorial debut in 2008 was *Firaaq* which brought her many accolades and appreciation, both in India and abroad. She was conferred the 'Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters' by the French Government. *Manto*, Nandita's second directorial film premiered in 2018 at the Cannes Film Festival and can be watched on Netflix. Her first book *Manto & I* chronicles her 6-year-long journey of making the film. Nandita was the Chairperson of the Children's Film Society. She has a Master's degree in Social Work and is a strong advocate for social justice. She has been supporting the campaign, '*Dark Is Beautiful*' and to further the conversation, she directed and produced a short in 2019, called *India's Got Colour*. During the lockdown, Nandita wrote, directed, produced and acted in a 7min. film called, *Listen to Her*, which shed light on the increase in domestic violence and overburden of work that women faced during the pandemic. Her third directorial venture, *Zwigato* explores the life of a food delivery rider and his family. The film is produced by Applause Entertainment and Nandita Das Initiatives. After premiering at various festivals, it will be released in India on 17th March 2023.

Long

(480 Words)

Nandita Das has acted in more than 40 feature films in 10 different languages, starting with *Fire*, directed by Deepa Mehta. In the last 26 years, Nandita Das has worked with eminent directors like Mrinal Sen, Shyam Benegal, Adoor Gopalakrishnan, Rituporno Ghosh, Mani Ratnam and many others and has played a variety of different characters. Her directorial debut in 2008 was *Firaaq* which brought her many accolades and appreciation, both in India and abroad. It was first screened at the Telluride Film Festival and then had its official premiere at the Toronto

International Film Festival. She was on the jury at the Cannes Film Festival twice (2005 and 2013), among others. She has been conferred the 'Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters' by the French Government for her contribution to cinema with a conscience. She was the first Indian to be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the International Women's Forum. She was nominated, in 2010, by the World Economic Forum to be a Youth Global Leader. Nandita Das was among the 16 emerging global leaders, chosen from close to 4000 applicants, to be a Yale World Fellow in 2014.

Nandita's second directorial venture, *Manto*, based on the life and works of the short story writer, Saadat Hasan Manto, premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in 2018. It was the only official Indian film to be selected. It then travelled to various festivals around the world. She also screened the film and shared the journey of making it, at top US universities including Stanford, Yale, Harvard, MIT and Columbia. *Manto* continues to stream on Netflix. Her first book '*Manto & I*' chronicles her 6-year-long journey of making the film. *Manto* was the first film that her company, Nandita Das Initiatives (NDI) produced and it is streaming on Netflix.

She has a Master's degree in Social Work and has worked with various NGOs before films gave her an opportunity to expand her role as a social advocate. Nandita continues to remain a strong voice for issues of social justice and human rights. She has been invited to speak at reputed events, social forums and top universities all over the world. She was the President of the jury for the 2018 edition of the UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence.

Nandita Das was the Chairperson of Children's Film Society from 2009 to 2012. She has been supporting the campaign, '*Dark Is Beautiful*' and to further the conversation on colourism she directed and produced a short in 2019, called *India's Got Colour*. During the lockdown, Nandita wrote, directed, produced and acted in a 7min. short called, *Listen to Her*.

Her third directorial venture, *Zwigato* explores the life of a food delivery rider and his family. It is also produced by her company NDI, in collaboration with Applause Entertainment. *Zwigato* will be released in India on 17th March 2023.