

I05

PROJECT TITLE: Fishers of Men

COUNTRY/REGION | GENRE | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:

India | Drama, Fantasy | Malayalam | 100min

DIRECTOR:

Sanju Surendran

PRODUCER:

Pramod Sankar

Rajeev Ravi

Kiran Kesav

IDP GOALS:

Funds, Co-producers

FINANCING (USD)

Above-the-Line Production: US\$149,000

Below-the-Line Production: US\$339,000

Post Production: US\$165,000

Other: US\$65,000

TOTAL BUDGET: US\$718,000

SECURED BUDGET: US\$237,000

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

2025 *If on a Winter's Night*

2018 *Aedan: Garden of Desire*

2014 *Kapila* (documentary)

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

A strict vegetarian bank manager undergoes a mysterious, spiraling obsession with fish that leads to his social ruin, eventual death, and final, surreal transformation.

SYNOPSIS

Sreekumar, a vegetarian bank officer in Kerala, leads a contented, orthodox life until a bizarre incident at a party forces him to consume alcohol and fish. This triggers an uncontrollable, consuming obsession with fish, which dramatically transforms his identity, career, and personal life. As his obsession escalates, he sacrifices his professional stability, alienates his family, and descends into a wild, animalistic existence. He eventually abandons his old life, living by the coast as an eccentric, fish-fixated mendicant. The story ends with his death, where fish bones are found in his pyre, suggesting a total, mystical transformation into the very obsession that consumed him.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The film is a surreal parable of transgression set against Kerala's coast, where fish embodies memory, ritual, and identity. It traces Sreekumar, a disciplined upper-caste vegetarian banker, whose accidental taste spirals into spiritual obsession, fracturing his family and community. Amid caste hypocrisies equating purity with vegetarianism, the film resists cultural homogenisation, celebrating fisherfolk's diverse traditions through magical realism. Stylistically, it shifts from observational restraint to heightened surrealism: underwater visions, mythic crucifixions, and sonic polyphonies blending fisher songs and hymns. Fish becomes forbidden sensuality and transcendence, interrogating purity's impossibilities in a stratified society—culminating in Sreekumar's redemptive dissolution into the sea's elemental chaos.

DIRECTOR

Sanju Surendran

Sanju Surendran is a National Award-winning Indian filmmaker and alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, where he studied under the legendary Mani Kaul. His oeuvre blends magical realism, visual poetry, and explores human nature. His films *Kapila* (2014) won Best Documentary at the National Film Awards and Special Mention at Visions du Reel, Switzerland; *Aedan: Garden of Desire* (2018) earned FIPRESCI Prize at International Film Festival of Kerala and has premiered globally. His latest Malayalam feature, *If on a Winter's Night* (2025), clinched the Hylife Vision Award at Busan International Film Festival.

PRODUCER

Pramod Sankar

Pramod Sankar is a Kerala-based producer with an economics background and seafood export expertise. He was CEO of Collective Phase One Studios, Kochi. Now he leads Cloud Door Films, blending analytical skills with creative vision for innovative Malayalam narratives. He is the co-producer of *If on a Winter's Night* (2025); executive producer of *Kuttavum Shikshayum* (2022); and line producer of *Thuramukham* (2023) and *Appan* (2022).

Rajeev Ravi

Rajeev Ravi is an acclaimed cinematographer-director, FTII alumnus, National Award winner for *Liar's Dice* (2013).

Kiran Kesav

Kiran Kesav is a producer-director, 14-year veteran known for *Ntikkakkakkoru Premondarnn* (2023).

PRODUCTION COMPANY

Cloud Door Films

Cloud Door Films, Kochi's premier production house, champions innovative storytelling through high-quality films, web series, and documentaries. Founded by producer Pramod Sankar, it blends magical realism and cultural depth in Malayalam cinema. Strengths include state-of-the-art facilities, a talented network, and Kerala location expertise. Current projects include *If on a Winter's Night* (2025; Busan) and *Fishers of Men* (in pre-production). Committed to boundary-pushing narratives, it fosters global collaborations for resonant, visually poetic works.

I05

電影計劃： Fishers of Men

國家/地區 | 類型 | 語言 | 片長：

印度 | 劇情、奇幻 | 馬拉雅拉姆語 | 100 分鐘

導演：

山齊蘇稜德蘭

監製／製片：

帕拉莫山卡

拉茲夫拉維

基蘭基薩夫

參與 IDP 目標：

籌集資金、聯合監製

預算分佈（美元）

線上製作：US\$149,000

線下製作：US\$339,000

後期製作：US\$165,000

其他：US\$65,000

製作總預算： US\$718,000

已籌集的資金： US\$237,000

導演電影作品

2025 《If on a Winter's Night》

2018 《Aedan: Garden of Desire》

2014 《Kapila》

故事梗概

嚴守素食主義的銀行經理迷上吃魚，渴求終演化成難以遏止的神秘執念，導致其社會地位崩毀、走向死亡，並完成一場超現實的轉化。

故事大綱

斯里古瑪是名素食主義者，在喀拉拉邦的銀行上班，過着安穩的生活。然而，一次聚會上，他破戒飲酒並吃下魚肉，從此終日渴求吃魚，身份、事業與私人生活遭顛覆。隨着吃魚的執念日益加深，他拋棄職場穩定，與家人疏離，最終墮入一種野性、近乎獸性的生活狀態。他離開原本的世界，流落至海邊，成為一名以魚為信仰的古怪隱士。斯里古瑪最終走向死亡，人們從他的骨灰中發現魚骨。

導演闡述

這部電影是一則發生在喀拉拉海岸的超現實寓言，以魚為象徵，承載記憶、儀式與身份。在將「純潔」與素食主義劃上等號的階級虛偽之中，這部作品拒絕文化單一，透過魔幻寫實手法，歌頌漁民群體多元且豐富的生活與信仰。風格上，電影從寫實觀察過渡至超現實：水下幻象、神話般的受難畫面，以及融合漁歌與聖詩的複調。魚在片中象徵禁忌的感官慾望與靈性超越，挑戰社會中對「純潔」的種種不可能要求，最終在斯里古瑪化為海洋混沌中的救贖與解脫。

導演

山齊蘇稜德蘭

畢業於印度電影電視學院，師承著名印度導演馬尼考爾，曾獲印度國家電影獎。紀錄片作品《Kapila》（2014）獲得印度國家電影獎最佳紀錄片，並於瑞士真實影展獲得特別表揚。長片《Aedan: Garden of Desire》（2018）榮獲喀拉拉國際電影節國際影評人聯盟獎，並於多個國際影展放映。最新長片作品《If on a Winter's Night》（2025）於釜山電影節獲 Hylife Vision Award。

監製／製片

帕拉莫山卡

來自喀拉拉邦的製片人，擁有經濟學背景並深耕海產出口領域。曾任 Collective Phase One Studios 行政總裁，目前主理 Cloud Door Films，致力開拓創嶄新的馬拉雅拉姆語敘事風格。他亦是《If on a Winter's Night》（2025）聯合監製、《Kuttavum Shikshayum》（2022）的監製，以及《Thuramukham》（2023）與《Appan》（2022）的現場製片。

拉茲夫拉維

攝影指導、導演，畢業於印度電影電視學院，憑藉《Liar's Dice》（2013）榮獲印度國家電影獎。

基蘭基薩夫

資深製片、導演，活躍業內逾 14 年，代表作為《Ntikkakkakkoru Premondarnn》（2023）。

製作公司

Cloud Door Films

Cloud Door Films 是位於柯枝的製作公司，由製片人帕拉莫山卡創立，致力於透過高品質的電影、網絡劇與紀錄片推動創新敘事。公司擅長將魔幻寫實風格與豐富的文化內涵融入馬拉雅拉姆語電影中，並擁有完善的製作設施及創作網絡，對喀拉拉地區的拍攝資源具備深厚理解。近期作品包括入選釜山電影節的《If on a Winter's Night》（2025），以及發展中項目《Fishers of Men》。