



Thursday, May 24, 2007

[Advertise](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Search

Enter search term(s)



Balsé gets Watertower Award for Monsoon'

Beacon Staff

Article Last Updated: 05/24/2007 10:54:06 AM PDT

Special Sections

- [Medical Guide](#)
- [Car Care](#)
- [Home & Garden](#)
- [Going Green](#)
- [Friends in Business](#)
- [Visitor Guide](#)
- [In The Village](#)
- [Consider the Alternatives](#)
- [Senior's Page](#)
- [Whale Festival](#)
- [We Live & Work Here](#)

News

- [Local](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Sports - Extra](#)
- [Financial](#)
- [Weather](#)

Classifieds

- [Announcements](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Merchandise](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Rentals](#)
- [Services](#)
- [Transportation](#)

Commercial

- [Performance Cars](#)
- [Custom Cars](#)
- [Custom Motorcycles](#)
- [Future Cars](#)

Entertainment

- [What's Happening](#)
- [Audio](#)
- [Book Reviews](#)
- [Video Reviews](#)

Lifestyles

- [Horoscopes](#)
- [Lottery Results](#)
- [Soap Opera Recaps](#)

Featured Channels

A highlight of last week's Mendocino Film Festival was the success of local resident Shyam Balsé's "Monsoon." "Monsoon" was so popular that long lines and overflowing venues required it be screened three times. And when, at Saturday night's Awards Ceremony, Balsé received the top Watertower Award for "Monsoon," the whole town celebrated its native son.

Betsy Ford, VP of programming for the festival, explained that all competing films were judged by professional juries in the Bay Area, and it was not until Saturday night's award presentations that the visiting judges were stunned and delighted to discover that the director they had chosen actually lived in Mendocino.

"Monsoon" has also won top awards at the Denver First Look Festival where it debuted, the Sonoma Film Festival and the East Indian International Film Festival in Los Angeles, where it was graced with the envied Audience Choice Award.

The humble and gracious Balsé said, "It's an incredible honor to receive an award for the film, but the true honor is to see how people are touched by the film in a way that may provide insight into their own lives."

Balsé graduated from USC and completed "Monsoon" as his master's thesis project. Shot in India, it portrays the story of an ill father and his doctor son as they journey into their past to try to reconcile their broken relationship before time runs out.

The appropriate denouement of the festival weekend became a party given by Shyam's mother and step-father, William and Alene DiDio, to screen and celebrate the creation of "Monsoon" as well as "The Making of Monsoon," which was wonderfully shot and directed by Shyam's sister, Shanti Balsé.

As friends and family of Shyam gathered over homemade Indian cuisine at St. Anthony's Hall, the community support was palpable.

[Print](#) [Email](#) [Return to Top](#)

COAST CINEMA
This Week's
Movie Schedule
ONLINE!
Big River Realty
Harvest Market
SHOP ONLINE
Celebrates
115 Years
of
Headline
News
ADVOCATE-NEWS

Photo
Order Beacon
Photo Reprints!
Click Here

[Headbone Zone](#)

[News Choice](#)

[Services](#)

[Information](#)

[Letter to the Editor](#)

[Feedback](#)

[Rate Cards](#)

[Search Archives](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Find a Job](#) :: [Feedback](#) :: [Classifieds](#)

[The Fort Bragg Advocate-News](#)

[News](#) :: [Services](#) :: [Contact Us](#) :: [Subscriptions](#) :: [Privacy Policy](#)

© 2007 The Mendocino Beacon

MediaNews Group Partners:

Northern California:

- [Alameda Times-Star](#) - Alameda, CA
- [Argus](#) - Fremont, CA
- [Daily Review](#) - Hayward, CA
- [Daily Democrat](#) - Woodland, CA
- [Chico Enterprise Record](#) - Chico, CA
- [Fort Bragg Advocate-News](#) - Fort Bragg, CA
- [Lake County Record Bee](#) - Lakeport, CA
- [Marin Independent Journal](#) - Marin, CA
- [The Mendocino Beacon](#) - Mendocino, CA
- [Milpitas Post](#) - Milpitas, CA
- [The Oakland Tribune](#) - Oakland, CA

- [Pacifica Tribune](#) - Pacifica, CA
- [Paradise Post](#) - Paradise, CA
- [Oroville Mercury Register](#) - Oroville, CA
- [Red Bluff Daily News](#) - Red Bluff, CA
- [The Reporter](#) - Vacaville, CA
- [San Mateo County Times](#) - San Mateo, CA
- [Eureka Times-Standard](#) - Eureka, CA
- [Times-Herald](#) - Vallejo, CA
- [Tri-Valley Herald](#) - Pleasanton, CA
- [Ukiah Daily Journal](#) - Ukiah, CA
- [The Willits News](#) - Willits, CA
- [SolanoJobs.com](#) - Solano County, CA

Southern California:

- [Inland Valley Daily Bulletin](#) - Ontario, CA
- [Los Angeles Daily News](#) - Los Angeles, CA
- [Long Beach Press-Telegram](#) - Long Beach, CA
- [Pasadena Star-News](#) - Pasadena, CA
- [Redlands Daily Facts](#) - Redlands, CA
- [San Bernardino Sun](#) - San Bernardino, CA
- [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#) - San Gabriel, CA
- [Whittier Daily News](#) - Whittier, CA

Privacy Policy | [MNG Corporate Site Map](#) | [Copyright](#)