



# India's New Independent Cinema: Rise of the Hybrid (Routledge Advances in Film Studies)

*Ashvin Immanuel Devasundaram*

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**India's New Independent Cinema: Rise of the Hybrid (Routledge Advances in Film Studies)** Ashvin Immanuel Devasundaram

This is the first-ever book on the rise of the new wave of independent Indian films that is revolutionising Indian cinema. Contemporary scholarship on Indian cinema so far has focused asymmetrically on Bollywood—India's dominant cultural export. Reversing this trend, this book provides an in-depth examination of the burgeoning independent Indian film sector. It locates the new 'Indies' as a *glocal* hybrid film form—global in aesthetic and local in content. They critically engage with a diverse socio-political spectrum of 'state of the nation' stories; from farmer suicides, disenfranchised urban youth and migrant workers to monks turned anti-corporation animal rights agitators. This book provides comprehensive analyses of definitive Indie new wave films including *Peepli Live* (2010), *Dhobi Ghat* (2010), *The Lunchbox* (2013) and *Ship of Theseus* (2013). It explores how subversive Indies, such as polemical postmodern rap-musical *Gandu* (2010) transgress conventional notions of 'traditional Indian values', and collide with state censorship regulations. This timely and pioneering analysis shows how the new Indies have emerged from a middle space between India's globalising present and traditional past. This book draws on in-depth interviews with directors, actors, academics and members of the Indian censor board, and is essential reading for anyone seeking an insight into a current Indian film phenomenon that could chart the future of Indian cinema.

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