

Nandita Das Profiles

80+ words

Nandita Das is an actor, filmmaker and social advocate. She has acted in over 40 feature films across 10 languages and directed three acclaimed films: Firaq (2008), Manto (2018) and Zwigato (2023). The last two were co-produced through her company, Nandita Das Initiatives, founded in 2016. She has served twice on the Cannes Film Festival jury and was conferred the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Government. She holds a Master's in Social Work and is a strong advocate for social justice.

190+ words

Nandita Das is an actor, filmmaker and social advocate. Over the last three decades, she has acted in more than 40 feature films across 10 languages, working with eminent directors such as Mrinal Sen, Shyam Benegal, Deepa Mehta, Adoor Gopalakrishnan, Rituparno Ghosh and Mani Ratnam. She made her directorial debut in 2008 with Firaq, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and won wide critical acclaim. Her second film, Manto (2018), based on the life of writer Saadat Hasan Manto, premiered at the Cannes Film Festival, where she has also twice served as jury. Her book, Manto & I, chronicles the six-year journey of making the film. In 2016, she founded Nandita Das Initiatives, a creative platform that co-produced Manto and her third film, Zwigato (2023), which follows a food delivery rider and his family and premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. She was conferred the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Government, and holds a Master's degree in Social Work. She continues to advocate for human rights and social justice, and is currently developing her fourth feature film, exploring the dynamics of marriage in contemporary society.

300+ words

Nandita Das is an actor, filmmaker and social advocate. She began acting in 1996 with Deepa Mehta's Fire. Over the past 30 years she has acted in more than 40 feature films across 10 languages, working with directors such as Mrinal Sen, Shyam Benegal, Adoor Gopalakrishnan and Mani Ratnam. She made her directorial debut in 2008 with Firaq, which portrays the aftermath of communal violence. It premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival, bringing her wide critical acclaim in India and abroad. She has twice served on the jury of the Cannes Film Festival, in 2005 and 2013, and was conferred the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Government. In 2014, she was one of the Yale World Fellows, chosen from over 4,000 applicants worldwide. Her second film, Manto (2018), based on the life of writer Saadat Hasan Manto, premiered at the Cannes Film Festival as the only official Indian selection that year, and was screened at universities such as Stanford, Harvard, Yale and MIT. Her book, Manto & I, chronicles the six-year journey of making the film. In 2016, she founded Nandita Das

Initiatives, a creative platform that produced Manto and her third feature, Zwigato (2023), a film about a food delivery rider and his family. It premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival, before its theatrical release in 2023. Alongside her feature films, Das has directed and produced the shorts, India's Got Colour (2019), on colourism and Listen to Her, on domestic violence during the pandemic. She holds a Master's degree in Social Work, was Chairperson of the Children's Film Society (2009-2012), and has served as Jury President for the UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence.

She is currently developing her fourth feature film, exploring the dynamics of marriage in contemporary society.