

RELIANCE ENTERTAINMENT

TO RELEASE VICEROY'S HOUSE IN INDIA ON 3RD MARCH 2017

Mumbai, 15th December, 2016: Gurinder Chadha's VICEROY'S HOUSE will be released in India & Globally on 3rd March 2017. The film tells the true story of the final months of British rule in India and its release will coincide with the 70th Anniversary of the Independence of India and the founding of Pakistan.

The Indian and Pakistani cast is led by Manish Dayal (*The Hundred Foot Journey*), Huma Qureshi (*Gangs of Wasseypur*) and Om Puri (*The Hundred Foot Journey, East Is East*). The roles of the principal political leaders are played by Tanveer Ghani (Nehru), Denzil Smith (Jinnah) and Neeraj Kabi (Gandhi).

The British cast is led by Hugh Bonneville (*Downton Abbey, Paddington*) as Lord Mountbatten; Gillian Anderson (*The X Files, The Fall*) as his wife, Lady Mountbatten; Lily Travers (*Kingsman*) as their daughter, Pamela; and Sir Michael Gambon (*Harry Potter, Quartet*) and Simon Callow (*A Room With A View, Four Weddings and a Funeral*) as key civil servants.

It is a story that is deeply personal to Gurinder, whose own family was caught up in the tragic events that unfolded as the Raj came to an end.

Viceroy's House in Delhi was the home of the British rulers of India. After 300 years, that rule was coming to an end. For 6 months in 1947, Lord Mountbatten, great grandson of Queen Victoria, assumed the post of the last Viceroy, charged with handing India back to its people.

The film's story unfolds within that great House. Upstairs lived Mountbatten together with his wife and daughter; downstairs lived their 500 Hindu, Muslim and Sikh servants. As the political elite - Nehru, Jinnah and Gandhi - converged on the House to wrangle over the birth of independent India, conflict erupted. A decision was taken to divide the country and create a new Muslim homeland: Pakistan. It was a decision whose consequences reverberate to this day.

The film examines these events through the prism of a marriage - that of Dickie and Edwina Mountbatten - and a romance - that between a young Hindu servant, Jeet, and his intended Muslim bride, Aalia. The young lovers find themselves caught up in the seismic end of Empire, in conflict with the Mountbattens and with their own communities, but never ever giving up hope.

VICEROY'S HOUSE is a film that is both epic and intimate, with an inspirational message that celebrates tolerance. Many of the events depicted are either unknown or forgotten, but all have strong contemporary relevance in terms of lessons to be learnt concerning the politics of division and fear, the origins of religious extremism, and our moral responsibility towards migrants fleeing violence for a better life.

VICEROY'S HOUSE is directed by Gurinder Chadha (*Bend it like Beckham*) with a screenplay by Gurinder Chadha, Paul Mayeda Berges and Moira Buffini, and is produced by Deepak Nayar (*Bend it like Beckham, The End of Violence, Buena Vista Social Club*), Gurinder Chadha and Paul Mayeda Berges. The film is executive produced by Pathé's Cameron McCracken, Reliance Entertainment's Shibusish Sarkar, BBC Films' Christine Langan, the BFI's Natascha Wharton and Ingenious Media's Tim O'Shea.

The film is a Pathé, Reliance Entertainment, BBC Films, Ingenious and BFI presentation of a Bend It Films/Deepak Nayar Production in association with the FilmVast and Filmgate Films.

VICEROY'S HOUSE opens on 3 March 2017

Running time: 1hr 46 mins

Certificate: 12A

Trailer can be found here:

DOWNLOAD: http://video.thinkjam.com/video/pathe/Viceroy's_House/trailer_1080p_3march.zip

YOUTUBE: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=id_ZyNdvXKQ

Images can be downloaded on: www.image.net

Twitter www.twitter.com/Viceroy'sHouse #Viceroy'sHouse

Facebook www.facebook.com/Viceroy'sHouseFilm

Website www.Viceroy'sHouse.co.uk

ABOUT RELIANCE ENTERTAINMENT:

Reliance Group, led by Anil D. Ambani, is among India's major business houses, with a leadership position in telecommunications, power, infrastructure, financial services, and media and entertainment. The Group has over 250 million customers, serving 1 in every 5 Indians and has over 8 million shareholders, amongst the largest in the world.

Reliance Entertainment is the media and entertainment arm of Reliance Group and is engaged in the creation and distribution of content across film, television, digital and gaming platforms. Internationally, Reliance Entertainment has partnered since 2009 with iconic film producer and director, Steven Spielberg, in the formation of DreamWorks Studios.

This relationship has produced several highly successful films such as *The Help*, *War Horse*, *Lincoln*, *The Hundred Foot Journey* and *Bridge of Spies*. In December 2015, Reliance Entertainment, Steven Spielberg, DreamWorks Studios, Participant Media and Entertainment One formed Amblin Partners, a new film, television and digital content creation company. The studio recently produced and distributed "The Girl on the Train" and 'Office Christmas Party.'

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