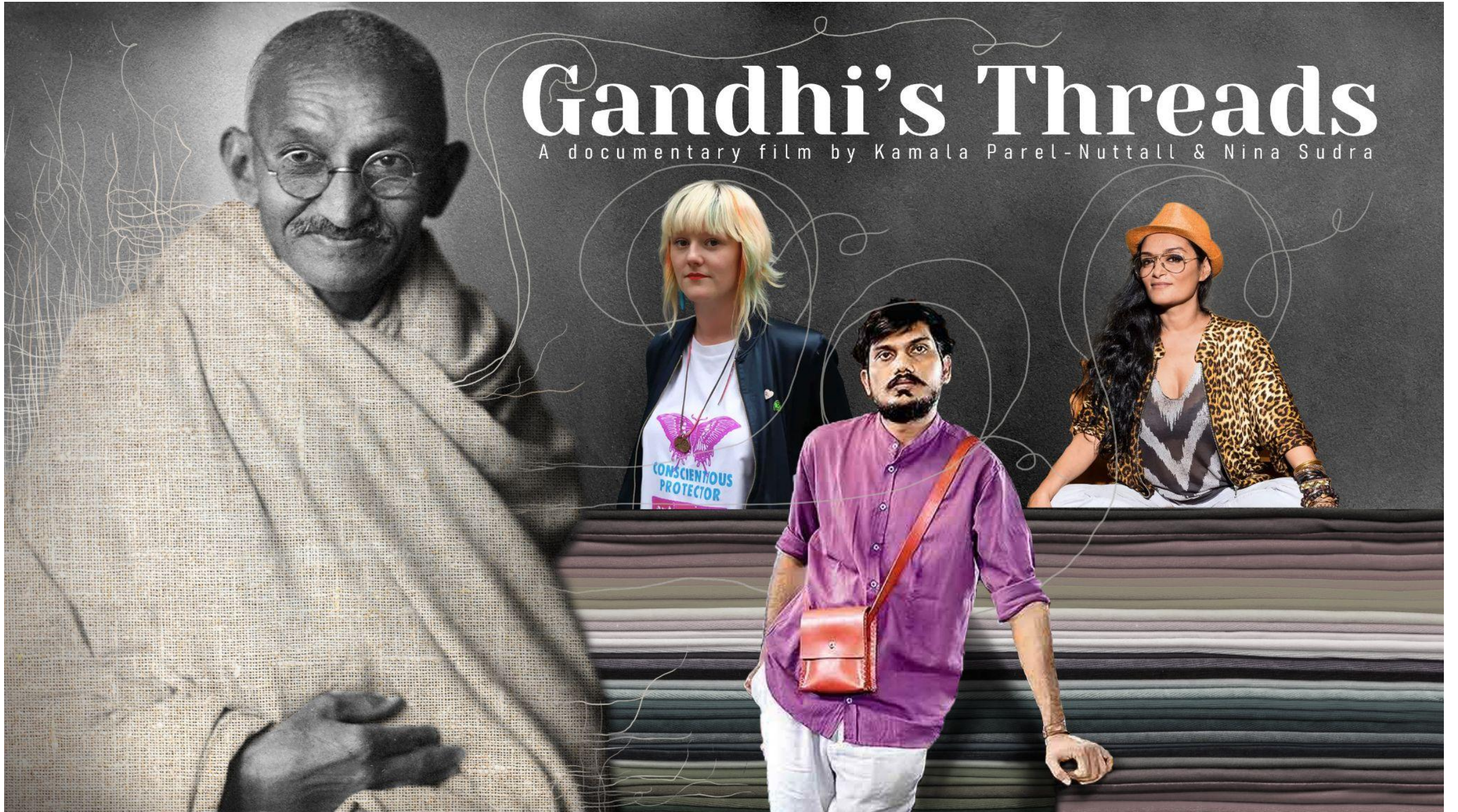


# Gandhi's Threads

A documentary film by Kamala Parel-Nuttall & Nina Sudra

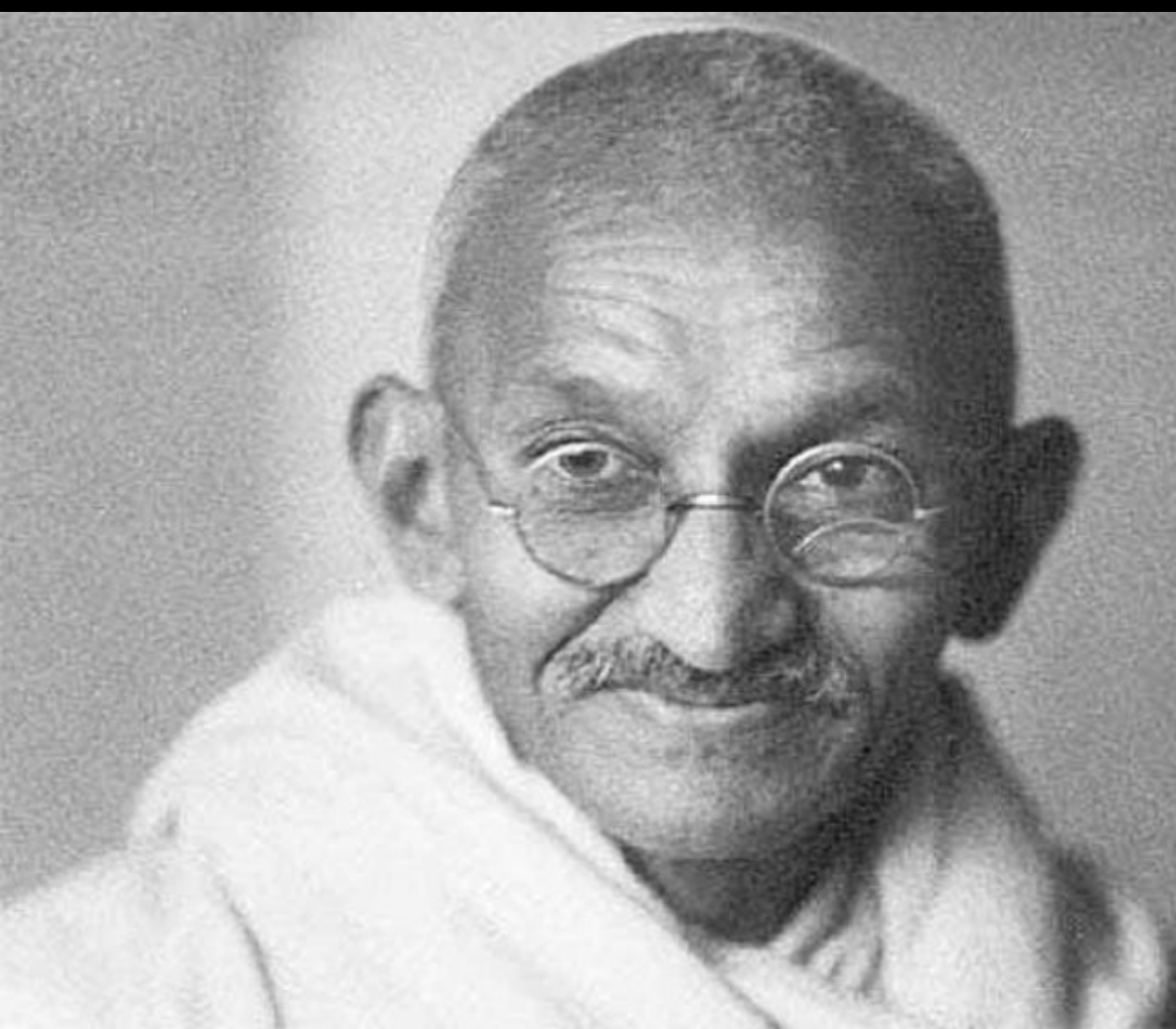




**Logline:** Three activists use fashion to fight their causes, inspired by the example of M.K. Gandhi.







**HE CHANGED HIS MIND.**

**HE CHANGED HIS CLOTHES.**

**HE CHANGED THE WORLD.**

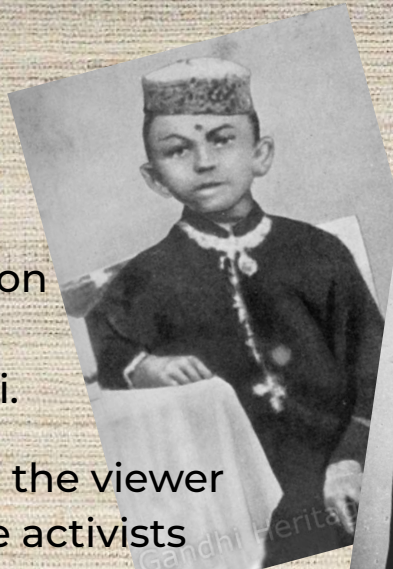


# Synopsis:

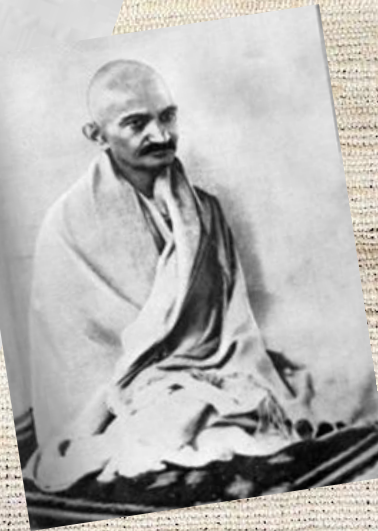
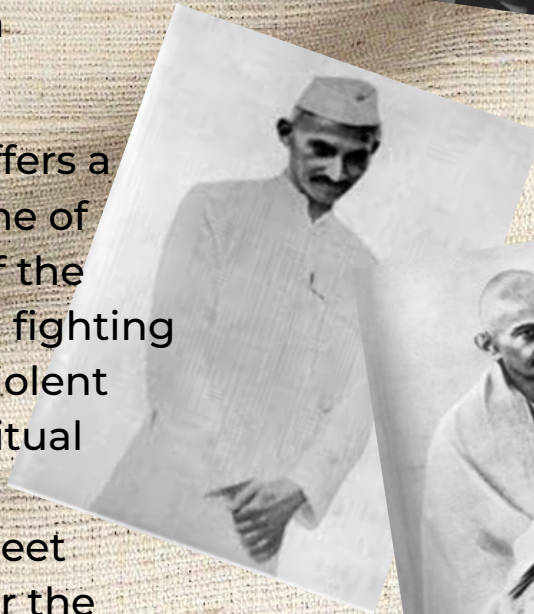
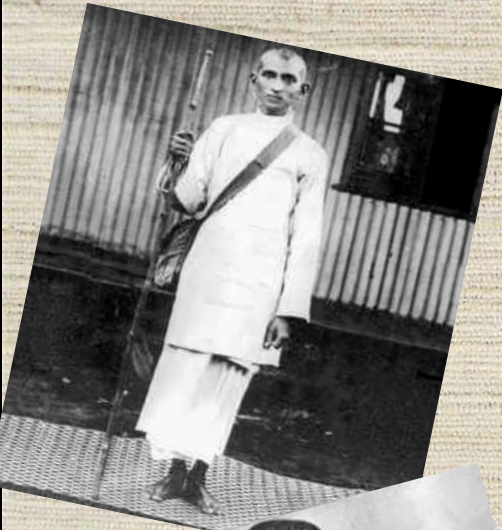
GANDHI'S THREADS is a feature-length documentary that explores the intersection of fashion and activism, and the complex legacy of Mohandas K. (Mahatma) Gandhi.

The film immerses the viewer in the lives of three activists who are using fashion as a tool for social change, inspired by the life of Mahatma Gandhi.

GANDHI'S THREADS offers a fresh perspective on one of the most famous figures of the 20th century. Freedom fighting ascetic, model of nonviolent civil disobedience, spiritual 'father' of Indian independence...now meet Gandhi: fashion icon for the 21st century.



This is the Gandhi who inspires the activists of GANDHI'S THREADS. His clothing became a symbol of protest against colonialism and the materialism of modern civilization. Like Gandhi, our activists use fashion to fight inequality and systems that value profit over people and the environment. Like Gandhi, their battles are also waged within. All are on journeys of self-discovery that promise to transform them along the way.







VISIONARY  
SOCIAL JUSTICE CAMPAIGNER  
ARTIST

FOUNDER OF CHAMAR STUDIO

Following in Gandhi's footsteps, Sudheer Rajbhar uses fashion to fight for social justice and subvert caste stereotypes in India. Sudheer's label reclaims the word 'chamar' from its derogatory past, transforming it into a symbol of excellence in craftsmanship. Through Chamar Studio, he supports and trains so-called 'untouchable' artisans to create luxury handbags and shoes (featured in Vogue, Elle, and Verve India) out of upcycled materials. Sudheer is changing the world one accessory at a time.

**Threads**  
SUDHEER RAJBHAR



A woman with short blonde hair is speaking into a microphone. She is wearing a dark blue jacket and large green hoop earrings. The background is blurred, showing orange and red elements, possibly flags or banners.

# Threads

CLARE FARRELL

LEADER  
FASHION DESIGNER  
COLLEGE LECTURER

CO-FOUNDER OF EXTINCTION  
REBELLION (XR)  
FOUNDER OF FASHION  
ACTION

In London, UK clothing designer Clare Farrell uses Gandhian techniques of civil disobedience to call attention to the global fashion industry's culpability in the climate crisis. Inspired by Gandhi's life and ideal of *satyagraha* ('truth-force'), Clare risks imprisonment in her mission to persuade her government to act.



# Threads

BANDANA TEWARI

Galvanized by Gandhi's clothing journey, Bandana Tewari gave up a glamorous career and most of her clothing to devote herself to activism, guided by the Gandhian principles of *ahimsa* (non-violence) and *aparigraha* (non-greediness). We follow Bandana to Bali and around the world as she advocates to bring transparency to the global fashion supply chain and make sustainability a way of life.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVOCATE  
FASHION JOURNALIST  
SPIRITUAL SEEKER

FORMER EDITOR AT LARGE,  
VOGUE INDIA  
SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCER

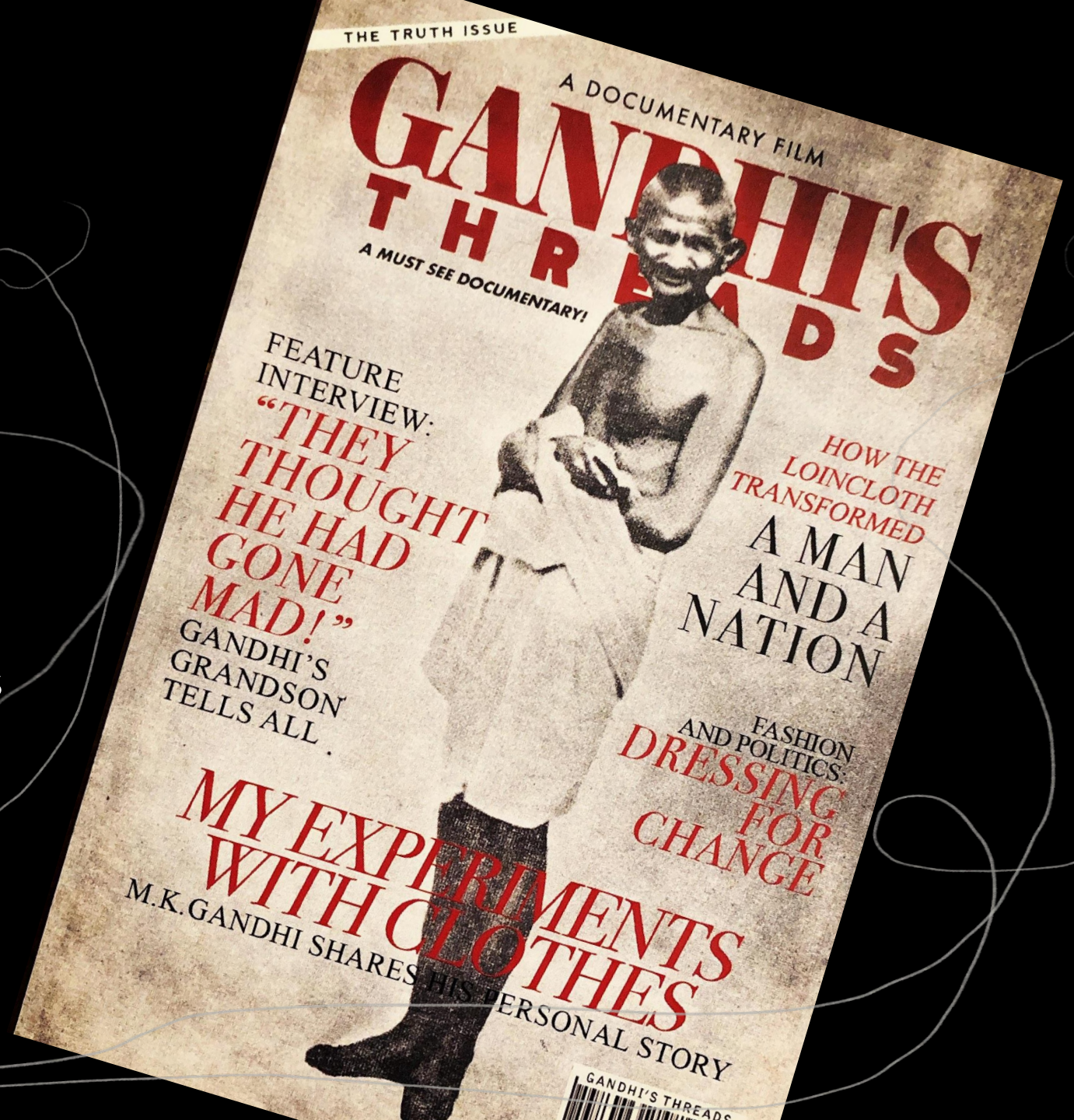




**Our characters' stories** will be filmed in verité style on location in Mumbai, Bali, and London, UK.



**Woven** through GANDHI'S  
THREADS is the story of Gandhi's  
evolving clothing choices: a  
dramatic journey of personal and  
political awakening that has  
influenced each of our characters  
in a different way.





# Experts:

Experts provide context and narrate key moments of Gandhi's clothing journey. They offer insight into Gandhi's complicated legacy and portray him with a balance of criticism and respect - not as a saint but as an idealist who considered his life an experiment in the pursuit of truth, and who often fell short of his own and others' expectations. Intercut with our activists' stories, we see that Gandhi's legacy continues to evolve.



## DR. LEELA GANDHI

Dr. Gandhi is the great granddaughter of M.K.Gandhi. She is the John Hawkes Professor of Humanities and English at Brown University, noted for her landmark book, *Postcolonial Theory: A Critical Introduction*.

## DR. TRIDIP SUHRUD

Dr. Suhrud is the former Director of the Sabarmati Ashram Preservation and Memorial Trust where he established the Gandhi Archives, to which the film will have complete access. He recently published an annotated edition of Gandhi's *Autobiography: My Experiments with Truth*.





# Experts:

## DR. EMMA TARLO

Dr. Tarlo is Professor Emeritus at Goldsmiths College, London. specializing in the anthropology of dress, fashion, textiles, the body, and hair. Her book *Clothing Matters* investigates the complex interplay between clothing and identity in India from the late 19th century to the present day.



## DR. PETER GONSALVES

Dr. Gonsalves teaches at Salesian Pontifical University, Rome. He has written extensively about Gandhi's symbolic and subversive use of clothing. His article, "Half-Naked Fakir" traces Gandhi's journey towards finding 'sartorial integrity'.



## DR. JUDITH BROWN

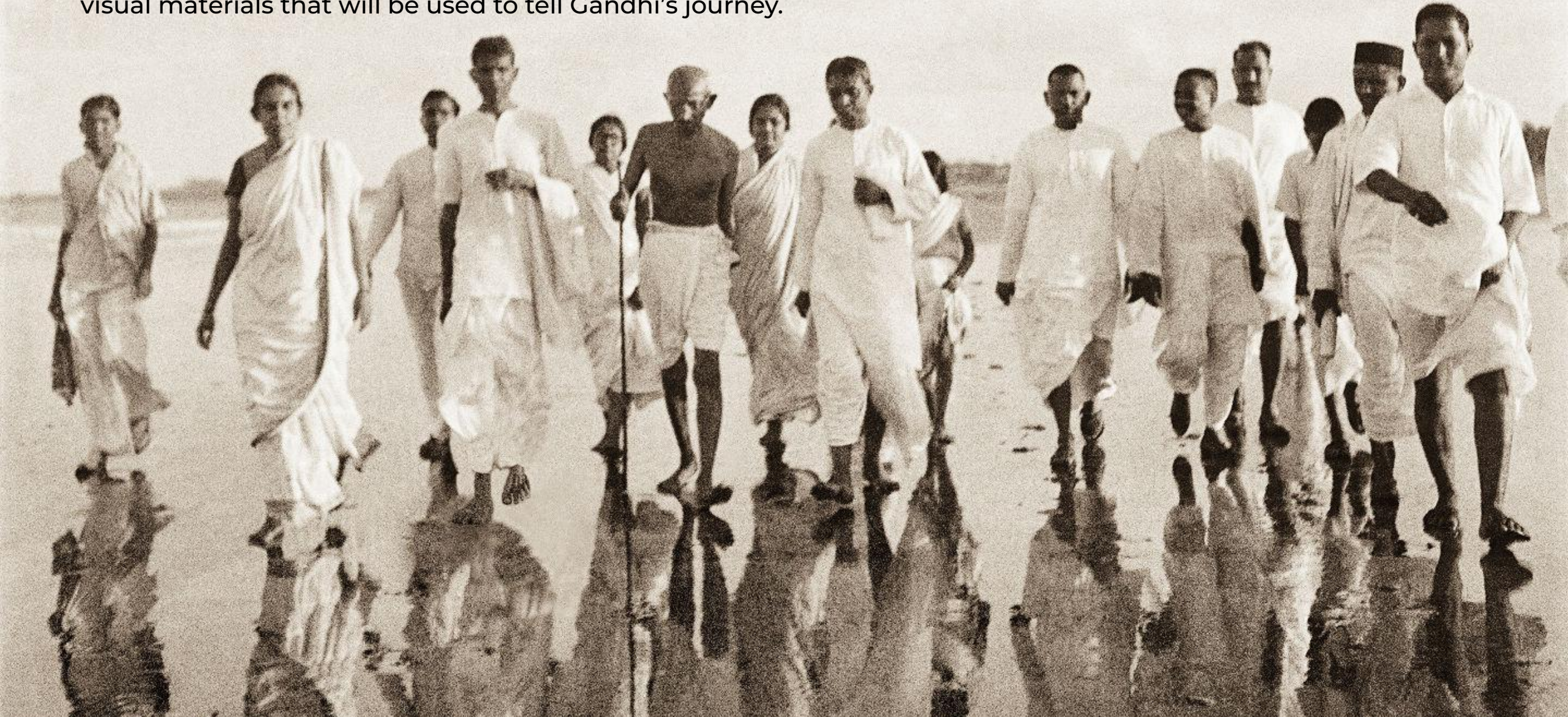
Dr. Brown is the retired Beit Professor of Commonwealth History, University of Oxford. She is a world expert in South Asian history. Among her many writings are seminal biographies of M.K. Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.





# Visual Style

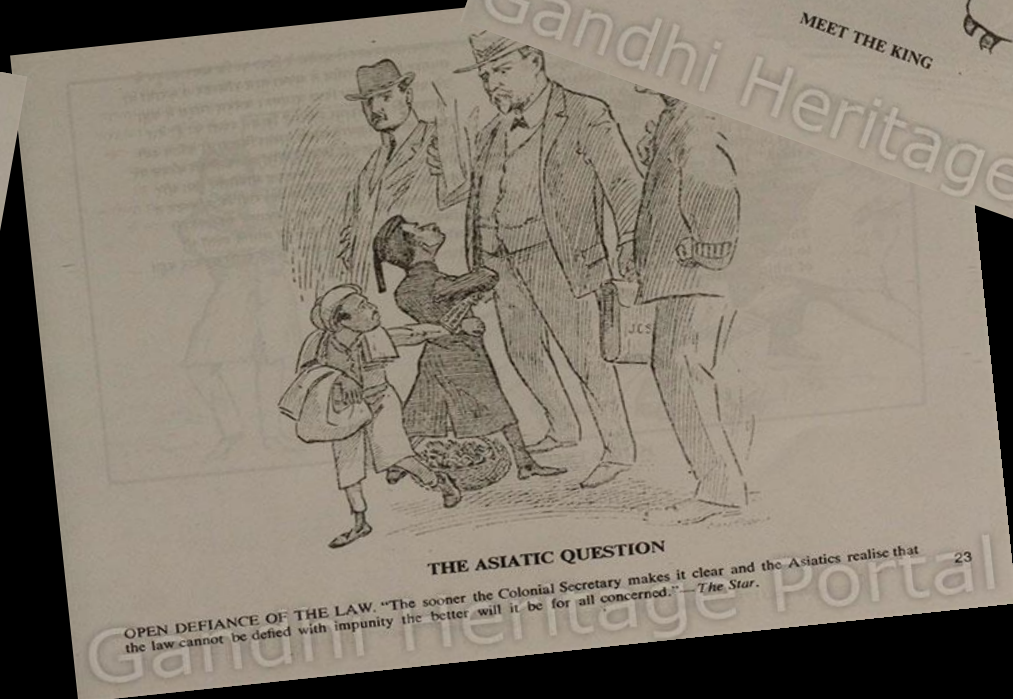
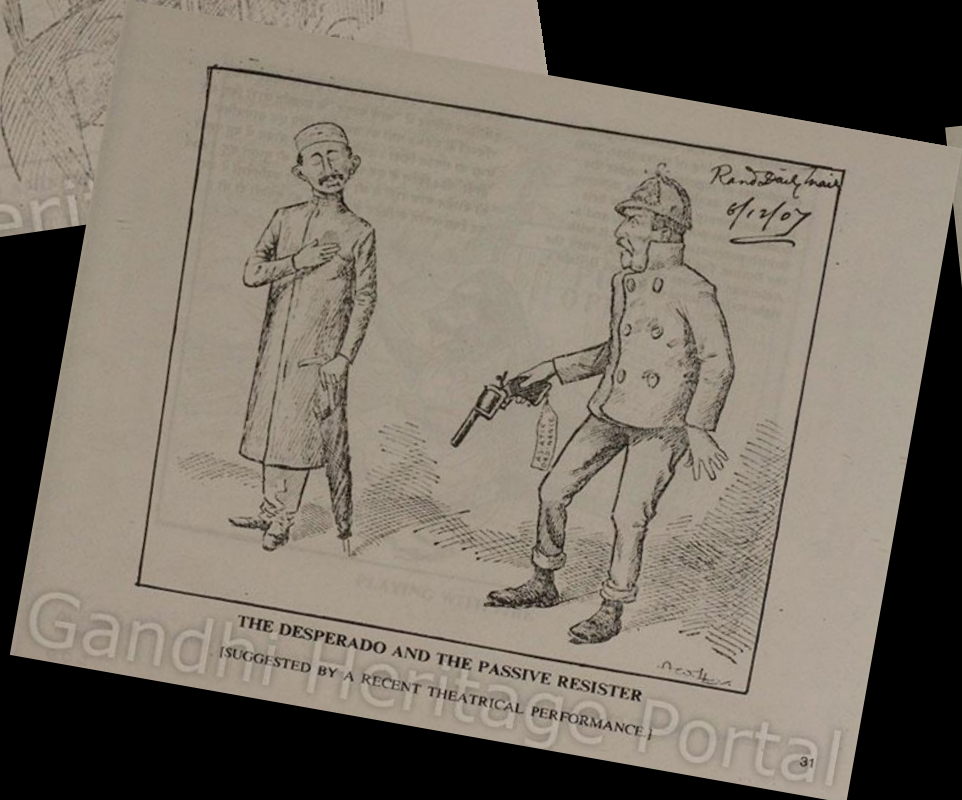
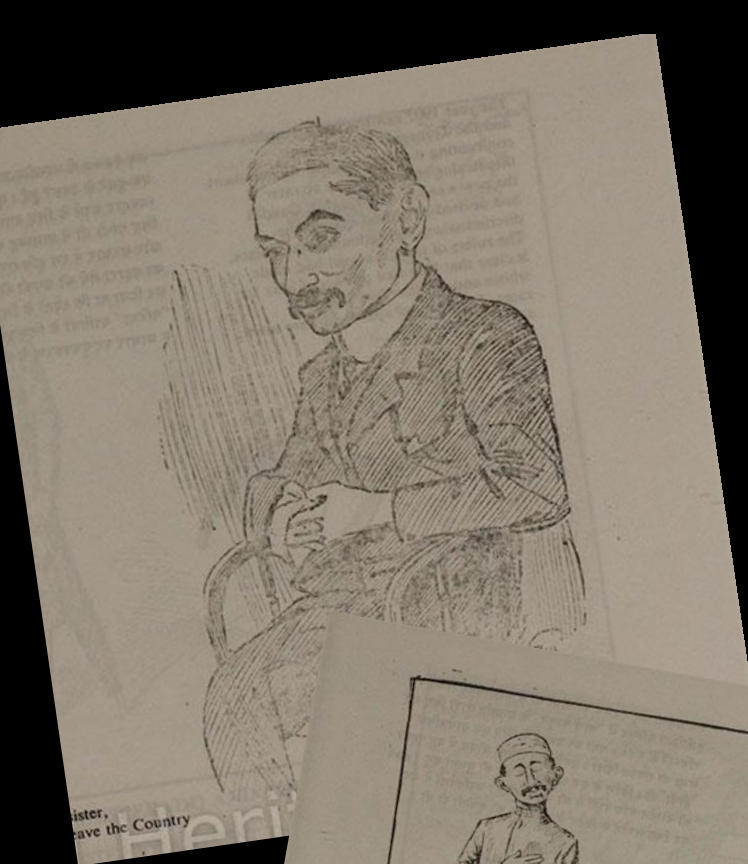
Rarely seen archival footage and photographs are the primary visual materials that will be used to tell Gandhi's journey.





# Visual Style

Animations based on political cartoons from Gandhi's time will also bring his clothing choices to life.







# Target Audience

The reach of this project is massive. An audience of 14yrs + interested in Gandhi; people who are concerned about fashion sustainability and the climate crisis; and members of Gandhian organizations around the world.





# Production Status

Currently in development; we are seeking production partnership and investment opportunities for an anticipated production/post-production budget of \$850,000 (CAN).

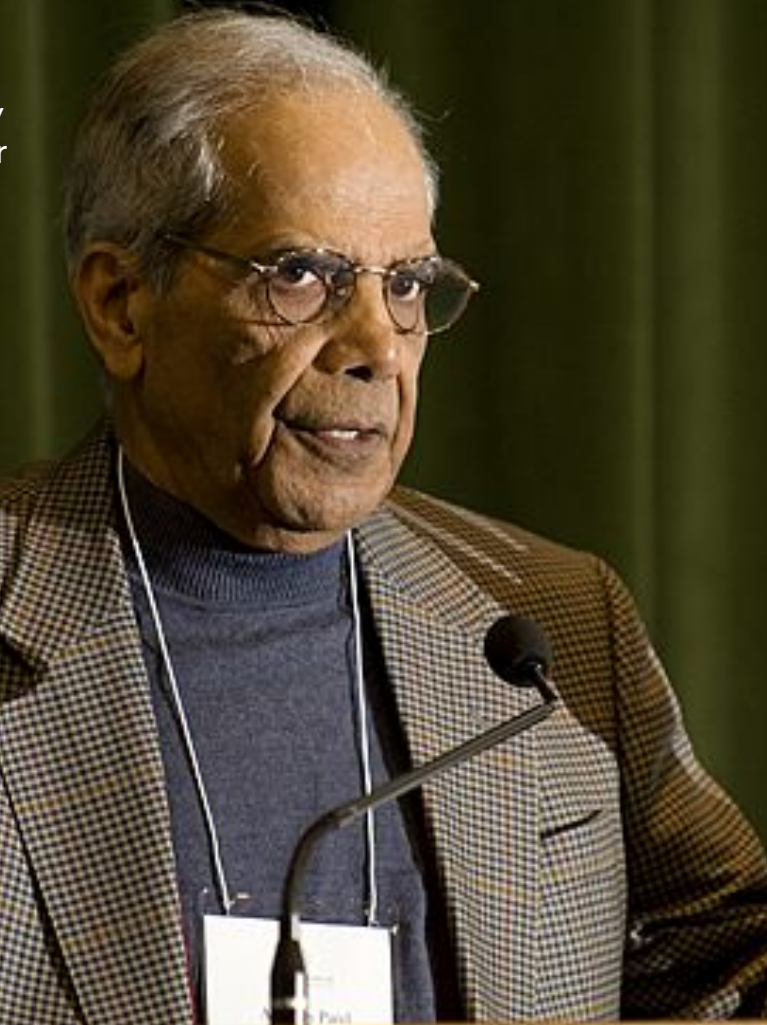


# Advisors:

DR. ANTHONY PAREL is among the world's leading scholars on Gandhi. For nearly four decades he was professor of Political Science at the University of Calgary, Canada. Born in Kerala, India, he was educated there and in the US, where he received his PhD from Harvard University.

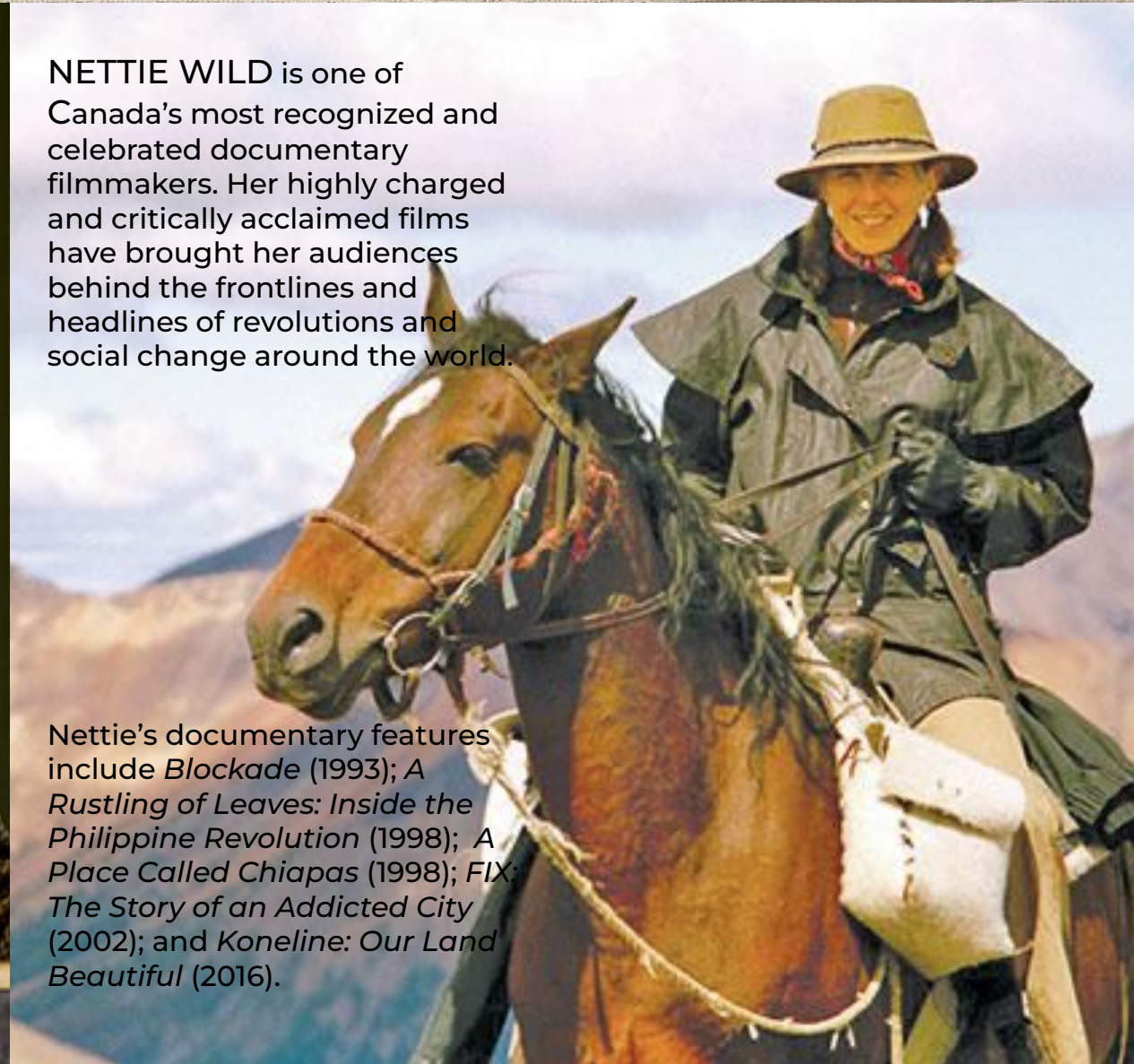
His major works include *Hind Swaraj and Other Writings*, ed. (1997); *Gandhi, Freedom and Self-Rule*, ed. (2000); *Gandhi's Philosophy and the Quest for Harmony* (2007); *The Cambridge Companion to Gandhi*, ed. (2011), and *Pax Gandhiana* (2016).

Dr.Parel's 2006 lecture, "Gandhi, the Loin Cloth, and Social Justice," is the inspiration for GANDHI'S THREADS.



NETTIE WILD is one of Canada's most recognized and celebrated documentary filmmakers. Her highly charged and critically acclaimed films have brought her audiences behind the frontlines and headlines of revolutions and social change around the world.

Nettie's documentary features include *Blockade* (1993); *A Rustling of Leaves: Inside the Philippine Revolution* (1998); *A Place Called Chiapas* (1998); *FIX: The Story of an Addicted City* (2002); and *Koneline: Our Land Beautiful* (2016).





# Creative Team:

## Co-Director

DR. KAMALA PAREL-NUTTALL is an independent documentary filmmaker based in Calgary, Canada. She studied theology and philosophy at the University of Cambridge, funded by a Commonwealth PhD Scholarship for the UK.

Kamala has been directing and producing documentaries for non profit clients for 6 years. Prior to that she taught in Universities in the US and Canada, and worked as a production manager in London (UK). Her recent short *The Gateway* was produced with the support of Telus, the AMF and the NFB.

## Co-Director

NINA SUDRA is a director and producer with over 25 years of experience across a range of genres. Based in Calgary, Canada, she is dedicated to making films that inspire conversations around social issues that arise out of encounters between cultures.

Nina's documentaries, including *Me, Masi and Mr. Clean*, *Tigers at the Gate*, *Everyone Waves Goodbye* and *Growing up Among Strangers* have screened and won awards at festivals around the world.

## Cinematographer

PATRICK MCLAUGHLIN is an award-winning cinematographer, field director and writer based in Calgary, Canada.

Patrick brings a vast portfolio of experience and works in all genres and formats of motion picture. His client list includes PBS, CBC, CTV, NFB, Documentary Channel, Discovery, Animal Planet, Bravo!, APTN, SportsNet, and Amazon Prime.

Patrick has been nominated 3 times for a Canadian Screen Award in the category of Best Cinematography in Documentary, and has won twice..



**butterflytyphoon**  
P I C T U R E S

## CONTACT:

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403.464.0735 / 403.681.1225