



Unheard India (Rare Languages)

Language : Galo Adi

Peta Dochcho

Bird Thief

2022 / Colour / 78 minutes



Director : Sounak Kar

Producer : Sounak Kar

Cinematographer : Sounak Kar

Editor : Sounak Kar

Music : Sourav Biswas

Cast : Tumkar Sora, Talo Babing, Tojo Angu, Takay Tabu, Doi Basar

Synopsis : In the foothills of Eastern Himalayas, amidst the dense forests of Arunachal Pradesh, resides the Galo tribe. Bird trapping is one of their age old traditions and bird meat is considered to be a delicacy. The film begins with a thief stealing the trapped birds. When the young bird-trappers find the traps empty, they accuse each other and break into a fight, which results in a boy's hand getting severed from the wrist by a dagger. The matter takes a serious turn involving their families. Thus what began as an ethnographic film, unexpectedly moulds into a classical western vengeance drama.



Director's Biography : Sounak Kar is an alumnus of SRFTI, Kolkata. His films have been selected in several international film festivals. He has written and directed the Bengali web series, *Fish and Chips*, which was released on Hoichoi, a leading Bengali OTT platform. He has written, directed, shot and edited a feature film, *Bird Thief*, in collaboration with the Galo tribe of Arunachal Pradesh. It was listed in the top fifty films nominated for the FIPRESCI-India Grand-Prix 2022 Award'. He is the associate cinematographer and editor of the documentary, *Slave Garden* which received the 'IDFA Bertha Fund for development'. He has also worked as a teacher for the last five years and is currently an assistant professor of Direction and Film History at SRFTI.