

## **The Golden Beach**

Hasse Wester

Sweden, 2008, 58 min, Documentary

**Language:** Hindi with English Subtitles

**Community Partner:** Icarus Foundation

**Sunday October 25, 3pm, ROM**



Global travel and the transformation of a seaside community in India are the subjects of this film by Hasse Wester, a Swede who lived among the Halakki Gowdas people for more than a year, learning their language and customs. When Wester returns to the beach 20 years after his first visit, much has changed: villagers who once farmed together now run competing cafes to service the growing number of Western tourists, and money has replaced peace as the treasure of choice. By integrating himself into the story, Wester has made a film that questions what happens when our fantasies overlap with other cultures' homes, and illuminates the moral ambiguities of pleasure seeking in foreign places. (Joel McConvey)

**Tag Line:** Global travel and the transformation of a seaside village in India are the subjects of this film, which illuminates the moral ambiguities of pleasure seeking in foreign places.

**BIO:** Hasse Wester was born 1957 in Harnosand in the north of Sweden. He has been studying behavioural science at the University of Stockholm and Film production at Skurups folkhogskola in Skurup in the south of Sweden. He works as a producer, editor and director for National Swedish Television years.. Hasse has travelled to India several times and spent long periods of time with the Halakki Gowdas. He has also studied classical Indian music in Dharwad in south India.

**Planet in Focus International Environmental Film & Video Festival**

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