

CITY OF DREAMS: FROM MOUNTAINS TO OCEANS

Director/Story: Karma Deki

Photography: Alice Castro

Script: Amanda Pimenta

Audio	Visual
KARMA (VO): "Every movie that makes us laugh or cry has a director who worked really hard to make it happen. If you're a big fan of movies, you probably care just as much about the person behind the camera as you do about the actors you see on screen. Behind every movie that brings out your emotions, there's someone who fought to make their creative vision real. Each of these filmmakers has their own story to struggle and success. Some of them are lucky enough to keep making great movies again and again, becoming some of the most famous filmmakers ever. And this is my journey as the first female filmmaker and director in Bhutan, a small country in the Himalayas." KARMA (VO): "From a young age, I have always been passionate about the arts. My love began with music – especially Bollywood songs. My love for music naturally led me to actively participate in various cultural activities in school. Whether it was singing competitions, dance performances, or school plays, I was there, seizing every opportunity to be involved." KARMA: "My enthusiasm for the arts did not stop at music. I found myself drawn to drama club, where I enjoyed exploring different characters and stories. Acting on stage was exhilarating, allowing me to express myself in new and creative ways. These earlier experiences laid a strong foundation for my later ventures. I was able to transition seamlessly from school plays, to larger cultural events, nurturing my love for performances." KARMA: "Writing was another art I soon discovered and found I was good at. I started to put my thoughts into words, pulling inspiration from the injustices I saw and experienced. With a combination of empathy, a keen sense of justice, and a talent for writing naturally led me to storytelling. These qualities	<i>Photos/videos of young Karma enjoying Bollywood music, participating in school plays, dance competitions, and singing competitions.</i> <i>Karma on screen</i> <i>Transition or split screen of Karma on stage</i> <i>Video transitioning of young Karma performing to her working on her projects, acting, directing, filming.</i>

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combined and shaped me into the filmmaker I am today." KARMA (VO): "Since age 16, I have been in the public eye, starting with my role in Delok Karma Wangzin, a documentary film directed by Karma Tenzin Dorji, scripted by Choden Jr. High School teachers Lopen Dophu, Lhakpa, Gyembo Dorji, and other supporting staff. My character embodies the essence of a Dakini, serving as the angelic guardian, Yidam, of the Queen. Throughout the narrative, the Dakini guides the Queen through the realms beyond life, bearing witness to the agonies of souls reaping the consequences of their past deeds in hell, while also illuminating the path to heavenly serenity for virtuous souls. The Dakini's divine guidance extends until the Queen is entrusted with the sacred task of returning to the human world to convey messages from departed souls to their grieving loved ones." KARMA (VO): "The best moment of my career feels so far away now. There wasn't much of a normal life, just a lot of problems, hard work, and pain. I did succeed in my job, but it cost me a lot—my passion for my work." KARMA: "This journey from childhood hobbies to more significant cultural endeavors has been incredibly fulfilling. Each step along the way, from singing Bollywood songs as a child to performing in front of the large audiences, enriched my life and continuously fueled my passion for the arts. My dreams were coming to fruition, a sign of all my hard work paying off. Then, with a handwritten note, everything crumbled in front of me."	TEXT ON SCREEN: 1989 TRANSITION INTO SCENES FROM THE FILM: "Delok Karma Wangzhin"