WHERE IS PINKI

A FILM BY PRITHVI KONANUR
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Bindu and Girish are seemingly typical middle class working couple in an urban setup in India with an 8-month-old baby girl PINKI. They leave their baby with the nanny Sannamma at home and head for work. Sannamma laces Pinki’s milk with alcohol and lends the baby to a friend Anasu. Anasu uses the baby to beg on the streets of the city. She leaves the baby under the flyover for a while to get a peg of alcohol.

A city corporation sweeper Pathu accidentally discovers Pinki, bags her and takes her home. Having lost the baby, Anasu dashes back to Sannamma and the two head out looking for the baby.

When Bindu returns home from her way to the office – having forgotten something – she discovers to her horror that Pinki and Sannamma are missing. Thus begins a frantic day of search that takes all the stake holders to strange places, people, situations forcing them to confront their past, present and the future.
A former software Engineer, Prithvi Konanur’s entry into screenwriting started with an English screenplay titled *The Abiding*, which was optioned for a Hollywood Film with Horror director Rob Schmidt attached to direct. Equipped with this experience Prithvi went to the New York Film Academy and studied filmmaking. After directing various short films, Prithvi made his debut feature *Alegalu* (Waves – 2012), which was produced by the Children’s Film Society of India under the Federal Indian Government. *Waves* premiered at the Toronto Film Festival (TIFF KIDS) followed by numerous international Festivals. His second feature *Railway Children* had its world premiere at the Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI) and went on to win Jury Special Mention at the Zlin IFF as well as further premieres and awards at multiple International Film Festivals. Prithvi’s third feature *Pinki Elli? (Where is Pinki?)* won the production as well as Movie Buff Appreciation Award at the Film Bazaar 2019 and is currently in post-production.
Where is Pinki is an Urban Social Thriller that tries to peak at certain aspects of society such as class, faith, marriage in 21st century India, including the police system, child protection system, child exploitation system etc. In the end, it’s a human story that criss-crosses through the lives of 7 people when their stories take a sudden dramatic turn.

Although Where is Pinki? is a complete work of fiction, it is authentically based on various themes and inspired by a true story of a house-keeper being arrested after trying to exploit the baby that she was entrusted with. For realistic performances, mostly non-professional actors have been cast, with the exception Akshatha Pandavapura (as Bindu) and Deepak Subramanya (as Manjunath). Most members of the cast are regular people doing their actual job. I had to visit about half a dozen slums in Bangalore to audition and cast some of these enthusiastic and brilliant first-time actors.

The film is shot at actual locations in the city of Bangalore. To get a gritty realistic look and to visually support the frantic search for Pinkie, a 100% handheld shoot was done using a single camera.

**DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT**
Starting with humble beginnings, Krishnegowda entered the film industry as actor, director and writer and by today has produced more than 10 films in India spanning over 20 years. Most of his films have been potboilers with Indian audiences and were filmed in ‘Kannada’ language.

Krishnegowda has served as a jury member at Bengaluru International Film Festival as well as for the Karnataka State Film Award and is the acting President of the Kannada Film Chamber of Commerce.

*Where is Pinki?* is Krishnegowda’s eleventh feature production and his first production of an internationally oriented arthouse film.
Akshatha Pandavapura
(as Bindu)
With a degree from NSD (National School of Drama), Akshatha mainly works in theatre with occasional appearances in cinema. For her performance in the film “Pallata” (Displacement) she earned rave reviews and won a Karnataka State Film award for best supporting actress. *Where is Pinkie?* is her first lead role in a theatrical feature film.

Gunjalamma
(as Sannamma)
is a migrant from a remote village in the Southern Indian state of Karnataka into the bustling metropolis of Bangalore. She lives in a slum in North Bangalore. She doesn’t know her real age, although, her ID card issued by the Federal Government states it as 44. With 4 children and half a dozen grandchildren, she occasionally works as a house-keeper taking care of young babies and children. She’s is not a professional actress. This is her first time performing anywhere in her life.
KEY CAST

Deepak Subramanya
(as Manjunath)
A theatre and film actor from Ban-
galore India. 2 of the 5 films he has
acted in have won Karnataka State
film awards. Predominantly working
in theatre, he has acted in over 50
productions with over 300 shows.
Trained in the Suzuki method of act-
ing, he is also a trained Flutist and
da dancer.

Sangamma
(as Pathu)
Sangamma comes from a famous
Slum in Bangalore known as the
Pipeline Slum in Central Bangalore.
She is a mother of 3 and a grand-
mother of 2. Sangamma occasionally
works as a cook at homes. She’s an
ardent watcher of movies and a big
fan of Kannada Matinee Idol Rajku-
mar. This is her first time acting and
facing the camera ever.

Anoop Shoonya
(as Girish)
Having been trained in the Nation-
al School of Drama (Bengaluru), he
is also trained in the Performance
Art of Yakshagana from Ududpi
and the Indian form of Martial arts
Kalaripayattu from Kerala. Trained
in method acting, working as a man-
ger at a restaurant, he moonlights
as an actor in small roles. This is his
first major supporting role.
MAIN CAST

Akshatha Pandavapura  BINDU
Gunjalamma  SANNAMMA
Deepak Subramanya  MANJUNATH
Sangamma  PATHU
Anoop Shoonya  GIRISH
Lakshmi Narayana  POLICE INSPECTOR
Ramachandra Hosur  SHANI
Anupama Hegde  CWC CHAIR
Anasuya  ANASU
Manohara K  VENDOR
Shashank  SUPERVISOR
CREW

SCREENPLAY AND DIRECTION
Prithvi Konanur

PRODUCER
Krishnegowda

ART AND COSTUME
Ramachandra Hosur

CINEMATOGRAPHY
Arjun Raja R

EDITOR
Shivakumara Swamy

LIVE SOUND RECORDIST
Krishnamurthy G R

SOUND MIXING AND EDITING
Krishnanunni N R

COLOURIST
Kiran Bhusam

FOCUS PULLER
Harsha

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Ramesh Babu
Picture Tree International

Picture Tree International (PTI) is an energetic and fast-growing world sales company with its headquarters in Berlin. The core business is worldwide licensing across all platforms, with the company maintaining a presence at all the major film and television markets. Alongside licensing, PTI is also able to act as your German co-producer and local distributor via a fully integrated business model that offers producers individual sales and financing strategies in a results-driven and transparent partnership, something essential in today’s ever changing audio-visual industry landscape. PTI’s line-up of up to 15 films a year is designed to ensure the right mix of arthouse and crossover productions to fully maximize the revenue potential of each film. Picture Tree International was founded in December 2012 by Andreas Rothbauer and has been run jointly by his partner and Co-Managing Director Yuan Rothbauer since 2017.