

"Indian cinema is the tomorrow of our times"

SHAH RUKH KHAN

ACTOR

Mumbai to Melrose—the road is shrinking. Warner, Sony and Disney are in India, making Hindi and regional films. UTV is making Hollywood films. Studio 18 and Eros are venturing into tie-ups with Hollywood studios.

There is this one word which I have an aversion to: crossover films. I think it is nothing at all. Because if it was, Hollywood, our smarter cousin, would have already started making crossover films, made in America, and taken over the Indian film market. They realised that Indian viewer is used to a certain kind of cinema. It's sentimentality... the songs... the drama... the mother, all of what makes Bollywood. Hollywood has

trained the world in enjoying film-watching in a certain format. We need to understand that and not adhere to our own stubborn...narratives. We need to adopt their discipline and organisation... We need to learn ways of selling our dreams to the largest number in the shortest span of time. Otherwise we will only remain a novelty in film festival circuits—a thing to be admired and patronised over a few glasses of red wine.

Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. It comes to us at midnight... And it hopes we have learned something from yesterday... I believe Indian cinema is the tomorrow of our times... We just need to learn from a very experienced and bountiful yesterday of Western cinema.



DIGITAL DREAMERS

SIR TIM BERNERS-LEE

INVENTOR OF THE WORLD WIDE WEB

“The important thing about creativity is the parallel processes that go on in the brain.”



JOSHUA KLEIN

SERIAL HACKER

“There are opportunities for leaders to take lessons from the online world. If you compete with the Internet, you will lose.”



WAEEL GHONIM, GOOGLE EXECUTIVE AND HERO OF THE EGYPTIAN REVOLUTION

“An online initiative has about 50,000 ideas for reforming Egypt, and has received 1.5 million votes from the people.”



But she told her own story, the rise of a small town politician who would become the most scrutinised—and caricatured—figure in American politics, with great panache, sprinkling it with hard-hitting political observations. “No, America is not in decline,” she said, “what is in decline is the idea of tax-and-spend centralised bureaucracy that has brought America to the point of debts and annual deficits in the first place. The big government ideas are once again being consigned to the ash heap of history, though they

won't go quietly to the grave.” An American original, Palin, who hit the national stage as John McCain's surprising running mate in 2008, did not say yes or no to the question of whether she would be in the 2012 presidential race. But she explained why the GOP lost in 2008: she was not on the top of the ticket. It was a sharp political retort. For the beginners, she offered the historical origin of the Tea Party movement of which she is the poster girl: “In 1773, when American patriots were upset about British

taxes, they dumped tea into the Boston Harbor. The British forced a monopoly on the American people that prevented us from importing tea from anyone but the British East India Company... See, even back then we believed in free trade.” The chutzpah of the frontier woman was on full display on the night of March 19 in the Durbar Hall of Taj Palace Hotel.

India was again an inspiration when the rallying point of another movement took the stage. Nobel laureate and former director general