SHER VANCOUVER PRESENTS

EMERGENCE
Out of the Shadows

COMING 2020
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Explore the taboo topic of being gay or lesbian in the South Asian community of Metro Vancouver and abroad. Kayden tells a poignant story of family rejection and self-discovery while embracing his newfound family and life. Parents and their children discuss the struggles they have endured and overcome to preserve the family through generations to come.

Success often means setting aside long-established culture and tradition for compassion, love and acceptance.
Emergence: Out of the Shadows can help you understand the lives and barriers faced by gay and lesbian members of the South Asian community in Metro Vancouver. I learned that society tends to alienate, marginalize and even fetishize people of colour, especially members of the LGBTQ community.

What makes Emergence: Out of the Shadows different is the fact that the film provides a rare insight and voice for the parents of gay and lesbian South Asians.

The parents address how “coming out” is not only life-changing for their children but also life-altering for the parents who are left with broken dreams and unanswered questions. The film acknowledges the important and extraordinary courage of both the parents and their children in their willingness to fight the traditions and taboos of society.
The film focuses on the rights of these individuals to live an open and respectable life despite traditional and often strict family values and socio-cultural pressures. The parents and their children describe their struggles to understand and “emerge” together to embrace, love, and support each other, and reach a higher level of critical awareness and compassion.

—VINAY GIRIDHAR, Director
Alex Sangha

Alex has a Masters in Public Administration and Public Policy from the Department of Government at the London School of Economics, and a Masters of Social Work from Dalhousie University. In addition, he has a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of British Columbia. Alex is a Registered Clinical Social Worker and Registered Clinical Counsellor. He currently runs his own private counselling practice in North Delta, BC.
Vinay completed the Digital Graphic Design Program at Vancouver Community College and a Diploma in Classical Animation at Vancouver Film School. His animated short film “Loves Age” was an official selection at the HollyShorts Film Festival in California (an Academy Award qualifying festival). Vinay is the current Art Director and Graphic Designer for a South Asian Lifestyle Magazine. He is originally from Kerala, India and currently lives in Surrey, B.C.
Avtar and Rajwant Nagra are devout Sikhs and since finding out that both of their children are gay, they have spent the last number of years being advocates to the LGBTQ+ community and have helped break down barriers in the South Asian community starting with their own circle of extended family.

Jag Nagra is a Graphic Designer-turned-Illustrator and has been working with Sher Vancouver since 2008 where she found a tremendous amount of support and acceptance. She and her wife are proud parents to their daughter Jaya, and currently run Feline—a Womxn’s social group for queer and trans South Asians.
Jaspal Sangha

Jaspal Sangha is the mother of three grown boys whom she raised largely as a single parent working as a nurse’s aide for many years. She is currently retired and has three beautiful grandchildren. She was born in Punjab, India where she worked as a Punjabi Language Teacher. She is a survivor of breast cancer.

Kayden Bhangu

Kayden Bhangu is a recent immigrant to Metro Vancouver from Punjab, India. He is the current Vice President of Sher Vancouver and has been involved in running Sher’s peer support groups and organizing events. Kayden completed an Associate Degree in Computer Science at Langara College.
Contact

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