



Daughters of the Curved Moon  
Documentary Feature - 90 Minutes

“Watch Out Gail Gadot, Nisha Budha is the New Wonder Woman”  
San Antonio Current: August 2017

## SCREENINGS AND AWARDS

World Premiere - December 2016  
Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival

North American Premiere - April 2017  
Toronto Nepali Film Festival

### **Jury Award - Best Feature Documentary**

U.S. Premiere - August 2017  
San Antonio Film Festival

UK Premiere - November 2017  
Aldeburgh Doc Fest

### **Jury Award - Best of Festival**

**Best Documentary Feature**

**Best Foreign Film**

Reel East Texas Film Festival - November 2017  
Kilgore, TX

## PRESS MENTIONS & ARTICLES

**"Come see the movie. I'm not exaggerating. I was absolutely shocked at just the utter acceptance of it."**

*Longview Journal Texas*

<https://www.news-journal.com/news/2017/sep/30/showtime-texan/>

**"The film from Nepal isn't about the Yeti"**

KLTV - Kilgore Film Festival - Reel East Film Festival

<http://www.kltv.com/story/36379592/reel-east-texas-film-festival-coming-to-kilgore>

**"Watch Out Gail Gadot: Nisha Budha is the New Wonder Woman"**

*San Antonio Current*

<https://m.sacurrent.com/ArtSlut/archives/2017/08/01/in-its-23rd-year-safilm-continues-to-develop-its-own-distinct-flavor-on-the-festival-circuit>

**"Women Fuel This Years San Antonio Film Festival"**

DAUGHTERS OF THE CURVED MOON

[SHAKTIPICTURES.COM](http://SHAKTIPICTURES.COM)

[SOPHIE.PEGRUM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SOPHIE.PEGRUM@GMAIL.COM)

*San Antonio Arts*

<http://saarts.com/the-23rd-sa-film-festival-in-full-swing/>

**"Challenging Tradition in the Remote Himalaya"**

*We Are Moving Stories*

<http://www.wearemovingstories.com/we-are-moving-stories-videos/2017/8/7/san-antonio-film-festival-daughters-of-the-curved-moon>

**"Lead Assistant Character and Inspiration in One Young Woman"**

*Online Khabar*

<http://english.onlinekhabar.com/2016/12/02/390645.html>

**"Blindingly Truthful Account of Women's Lives in Jumla"**

*Medium.com*

<https://medium.com/@vskath/a-screening-at-kumari-hall-09-12-2016-4064aa269326#.tgexeds75>

**"What do Women Want?"**

*Bitch Flicks*



<http://www.btchfcks.com/2014/11/seed-spark-what-do-women-want.html#.WahGbtOGORs>

## ABOUT

*An extraordinary young woman takes us on a journey to her remote mountain village in Western Nepal. Whilst sharing inspiring stories of women, she challenges the traditional Hindu customs that bind the lives of her villagers.*

Nisha Budha is an extraordinary young Nepali woman who takes us on a journey back to visit her family and village in Jumla, a remote mountain district in far Western Nepal. Shot over a period of several years, the film is an expedition into a community steeped in ancient customs and beliefs and a rite of passage for this young woman coming to terms with her struggle against tradition while pursuing her personal dreams. Her natural curiosity and charismatic questions take us deep into the heart of the lives of a group of women who have been living within the constraints of traditional societal structure, where centuries of repressive culture have undermined Nepali women both socially and economically. Her beautiful singing voice accompanies us into the homes and deeply personal stories of her family and



villagers who, despite their subsistence lives, still find reason to celebrate. With her

own unique tenacity, this Daughter of Jumla has her own personal quest to improve





the lives of her own sisters and villagers, and through her endeavors, to challenge the thinking of her own family. Until now, the voices of women spanning generations have gone unheard. Although the women of Jumla are still living at the mercy of old



traditions and practices, the next generation of daughters are gaining access to education and attitudes are slowly starting to shift

## FILMMAKERS

Miranda Morton Yap and Sophie are co-collaborators on three projects through their documentary production company Shakti Pictures.

Talking to the Air: The Horses of the Last Forbidden Kingdom (2015)

Daughters of the Curved Moon (2016)

Pink Tiffany (2017)

### **Miranda Morton Yap:**

Miranda has worked as a producer in the creative arts for over fifteen years. She has worn many hats on a wide range of projects including commercials, short films & stage productions.





In recent years, she spent time exploring the globe. The inspiration she found on those travels sparked a desire to share the stories of the vibrant people and colourful places she encountered. While volunteering in Nepal she was moved and inspired by the indomitable spirit of the women in a remote mountain community in Jumla and felt motivated to share their story. She settled in Nepal to make her debut documentary film, "Daughters of the Curved Moon".

### **Sophie Dia Pegrum:**

Sophie is a British American film director and documentary cinematographer who has produced and shot films in the Antarctic, at the North Pole and in the Himalayas. Her documentary films include "77 Below" and experimental "Come to the Edge" shot on the Ross Ice Shelf in Antarctica and featuring artist Lita Albuquerque. The award winning "Talking to the Air: The Horses of the Last Forbidden Kingdom" was shot on the border with Tibet in the high Himalaya. As well as co-directing, Sophie also lensed the award winning "Daughters of the Curved Moon" which was shot in remote villages in West Nepal. She is currently in post production on a documentary on the maverick and youthful horsemen of Kyrgyzstan and working on a story about The Camarillo family of California and the legacy of their rare White Horses.

**[sophiepegrum.com](http://sophiepegrum.com)**





## DIRECTOR STATEMENT

This film was shot in Jumla, West Nepal over four shoots spanning two years. During filming, we immersed ourselves in village life in this remote mountain community in a unique and valuable way. With the aid of our wonderful team of Jumla locals, Soraj Shahi and Nisha Budha, we were given the opportunity to capture an intimate portrait of this fascinating social landscape - managing the technical aspects of shooting, without overpowering our surroundings. The fact that we were shooting in Soraj and Nisha's own society, gave us a heightened intimacy with our characters and subject matter. Shooting Nisha's family and friends in her village, gave the interviews a personal edge that we could not have achieved otherwise. It was her interactions, and voice that added a layer of familiarity and authenticity to the film. As shooting progressed it became clear that Nisha was much more than just our guide and assistant, but a key and integral part of our story. Over the shooting period, as Nisha returned to Jumla to visit her family and village, we were riveted to observe her struggle to reconcile progress and tradition. Her experience of this was the narrative on which the story was built. Nisha's understanding and interaction with her community evolved to become the focus of the film. Her spirit and personality took us all on a remarkable and personal journey, one that we hope to share through this documentary film.

Miranda Morton Yap & Sophie Dia Pegrum

