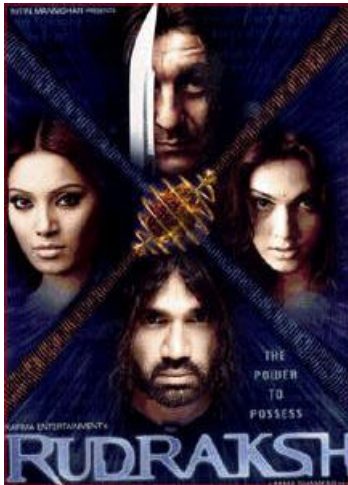


## Supernatural thriller Rudraksh premieres on October 3



**Bollywood's** new generation directors are making an arduous effort of breaking away from the song-and-dance movies of the 80's and 90's. BITSian Chemical Engineer **Mani Shankar's** latest venture, Rudraksh, starring Bipasha Basu, Sanjay Dutt, Sunil Shetty and Isha Koppikar, hovers between science and magic, myth and reality.

Rudraksh is an unusual movie with mind-blowing seventy-five minutes of special effects - the most ever seen on Indian cinema. Its spellbinding narrative promises to keep the viewers enthralled till the end. !

## Greencard Fever is another successful crossover film



**BITSi an** Vijay Vaidyanathan joins an increasing number of Indians producing crossover films in the United States. This first venture produced by Vijay and his wife, Sheena (also a BITSian), and directed by first timer Bala Rajasekharuni, with recognizable Indian American actress, Purva Bedi, and Vikram Dasu, an actor that could pass for a BITSIAN (with kurta, jeans and no money in his pocket), the story is a classic one about Murali, who comes to America, looking for a way to get a green card and become legal. He becomes a victim of corruption, local politics and racism. The movie, which received mixed reviews, contained excellent performances, providing romance, comedy and drama.

## Masala & Spice

The performances certainly tugged at the heartstrings of BITSians who could relate to their first experiences in America. Vijay sees NEMI as a convergence of his passions for Technology and Theater. Vijay was the Chief Strategy Officer of NBC Internet (NBCi), on the Board of Directors and CTO of

Xoom, President & CEO of Paralogic Corp. and also on the Board of Directors at The University at Albany Foundation. !

## Alter Ego, hits New York with Tom Stoppard's Indian Ink.



**In** April 2002, a BITSian EDC veteran, **Anuraag Agarwal**, joined hands with Bhavna Thakur and other theater enthusiasts in New York to launch AlterEgo productions. Almost all founders were desi lawyers, doctors, or investment bankers that had 9-5 jobs! After successfully presenting Girish Karnad's Hayavadana at the Present Company Theatorium and Anuvab Pal's Chaos Theory at the Here Arts Center, Alter Ego is now launching its biggest production to date.

As NYMetro.com aptly put it - "Tom Stoppard's 1995 play Indian Ink hasn't been done in New York until now... It is how it's coming to the city has people talking: Usually, Stoppard plays debut on Broadway or at Lincoln Center, but in this case, the first staging will be in Tribeca's little Walkerspace Theater, in the hands of the one-year-old company Alter Ego." !