

“BANDIT QUEEN”

a film by Shekhar Kapoor
INDIA / UK 1994 –119 mins

Tuesday June 7 @ 7pm



Reviewed by Aricia Lee - Ventura Film Society

What becomes a legend most? A beautiful woman who knows what she wants and won't stop at anything to get it. As a precocious young Indian girl, Phoolan Devi was married off for the price of one bicycle and a goat. Her only apparent crime? Being an opinionated woman born into a low-caste family, for which she suffered a great deal. She was a “nobody” until she attempted to escape her destiny and be with the man she loved. Now she is a legend, known throughout India as the “Bandit Queen.”

What makes “Bandit Queen” a true-grit Schwarzenegger-style “roaring action adventure,” as The New York Times called it, is the way this heroine seeks vigilante justice against her attackers—relentlessly, one by one, and often hiding in plain view. What makes this beautiful film a love story in a historical drama Phoolan Devi's innocent quest for love within a system that won't allow her that freedom. For

