

## CHELMSFORD FILM CLUB

An Independent film society based in Chelmsford

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### **ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT**    Thursday 12 February 2026    123 mins

Here is a movie which Derek Malcolm in *The Guardian* described as “a triumph... dreamlike and magical”. He also went on to suggest that director Payal Kapadia’s fluent and absorbing story telling could be compared with Satyajit Ray’s *THE BIG CITY* (1963) and *DAYS AND NIGHTS IN THE FOREST* (1977).

It’s set in present day Mumbai and tells the story of three hospital nurses who come to the big city from smaller home towns: Prabha (Kani Kusruti), Anu (Divya Prabha) and the older Parvati (Chhaya Kadam). Prabha and the flightier, younger, Anu are roommates and Anu, having just moved in, is already asking Prabha to cover her share of the rent. She is also causing some scandal and gossip in the hospital due to having a Muslim boyfriend, Shiaz (Hridhu Haroon). Meanwhile, Parvati, a widow, is threatened with eviction because a property developer has bought her apartment building and her late husband did not leave her the documentation that would prove her resident’s right to remain, or at least, get compensation.

Prabha is married but her husband departed for Germany soon after the wedding. Now a German-made, brand new, rice cooker arrives through the post from him. Is he sending it to renew the relationship or saying “goodbye”? Added complications are that a doctor at the hospital is showing a romantic interest in Prabha, even though he knows she is married. Anu is having reservations about her relationship with Shiaz, especially when an ‘assignation’ is thwarted.

Life in the big city is proving complicated and emotionally fraught for the roommates so they agree to accompany Parvati when she quits her job to return to her home village on the coast. In the village Prabha experiences a revelation, albeit partly hallucinatory, about her own life, its past and possible future.

“A glorious film” Peter Bradshaw called it. We hope you agree.

Our next screening: **I’M STILL HERE** on Monday 23 February. Do try to use your 2 concessionary guest tickets if you haven’t already - guest entry for £7.50.