

**BOLLYWOOD EXILED TO HOLLYWOOD OR THE OTHER WAY  
ROUND?:  
THE (CURIOUS) CASE OF *SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE*<sup>1</sup>.**

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*Abstract: For a film originating from Third Cinema (as Bollywood is referred to in Film theory) to become a Box Office success in the First Cinema (as Hollywood is known as), to say nothing of winning eight Academy Awards, it must diffuse some of its elements which would otherwise classify it as an Indian 'formula' film. Taking into account that Indian Cinema varies from Western cinema in terms of aesthetics and narrative structure, a film with mainly a Hindi cast, written by a British scriptwriter, based on a novel of an Indian author, directed and produced by a British director and production company, mainly distributed by two American film studios has proved that such a global 'joint venture' may prove triumphant internationally. A case study on Danny Boyle's *Slumdog Millionaire* (2008), the paper is trying to identify which are the elements negotiated for this Eastern formula film in order to become a success by/on Western terms.*

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<sup>1</sup> Reference is made to David Fincher's *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, *Slumdog Millionaire*'s main rival in the 2009 Academy Award competition.