Ali Fazal (r) romances Melanie Kannokada in "For Here or to Go," which will have its world premiere at the Cinequest film festival Feb. 28. (Many Cups of Chai Films photos)

Omi Vaidya in a scene shot at the Sunnyvale, Calif., Hindu Temple in the comedy "For Here or to Go."

Indian Man Dreams Of Love, Success in 'For Here or to Go'

By LISA TSERING
India-West Staff Reporter

SAN LEANDRO, Calif. — The independent comedy "For Here or to Go" was shot on location in the San Francisco Bay Area in July of 2013, and **India-West** got an exclusive look behind the scenes (http://ow.ly/Jpnly).

The film, which stars rising Bollywood talent Ali Fazal ("Furious 7"), Indian American model-actress Melanie Kannokada and Indian American actors Samrat Chakrabarty, Omi Vaidya, Amitosh Nagpal and Rajit Kapur, depicts the challenges faced by a young Indian man who comes to Silicon Valley to make it big and ends up discovering that life in America isn't at all what it seems.

Director Rucha Humnabadkar and writer-producer Rishi S. Bhilawadikar are now getting the chance to bring "For Here or to Go" to a wide audience: the film will have its world premiere at the Cinequest film festival in San Jose, Calif., Feb. 28 and will have two additional screenings.

"Set against the backdrop of the 2008 recession, 'For Here or to Go?' is a comedy drama about the many personal battles faced by immigrants living in America," said a spokesperson. "An aspiring Indian tech entrepreneur in the Silicon Valley finds himself unexpectedly battling the bizarre American immigration system to keep his dream alive or prepare to return home forever." For information, visit http://ow.ly/JpoF3.

Saffron-robed Manisha Koirala Spotted in Hardwar

MUMBAI (PTI) — Bollywood actress Manisha Koirala is not planning for a life of renunciation, despite her spiritual leanings and a recent appearance at a temple in Hardwar, where she was clad in saffron garments. "I have had a fortune of being in company of sadhu and sadhvi but I am nowhere close to being one!" she posted online Feb. 21 after her photo stirred controversy. "I'm in deep gratitude that Pilot Baba called me for mahamrityunjaya hawan," she said.

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