February 24, 2019 marks one year since Sridevi, one of the most prolific actresses across regional Indian cinemas, passed away tragically in an accident at the age of 55. Sridevi began her career as a child artist and acted in over 400 films throughout her career. Because of her tremendous popularity and award-winning performances, she is widely considered to be one of the first female superstars in Indian cinematic history. In remembrance, and in honor of her first death anniversary, we present a four-film retrospective of some of Sridevi’s best and most memorable work in Telegu and Hindi cinemas.

INCARNATIONS OF SRIDEVI: INDIAN CINEMA SUPERSTAR

Friday, March 1 @ 5.30 pm: Sadma (1983, Hindi, dir. Balu Mahendra, 141 mins.)
A young woman, Nehalata (Sridevi), suffers retrograde amnesia and regresses to childhood after suffering a head injury in a car crash. Lost, she ends up trapped at a brothel before being rescued by a lonely schoolteacher, Somprakash (Kamal Haasan), who becomes her carer and ultimately falls in love with her.

Friday, March 22 @ 5.30 pm: Chaalbaaz (1989, Hindi, Pankaj Parashar, 156 mins.)
Anju and Manju (both played by Sridevi) are twins separated at infancy. Anju, submissive & fearful, is brought up in wealth but treated as a servant by abusive relatives, while Manju, a street-smart badass, grows up poor and becomes a showgirl. One fine day, they end up at each others’ houses and are mistaken to be the wrong twin. Their lives are not the same anymore.

Friday, March 29 @ 5.30 pm: Kshana Kshanam (1991, Telugu, dir. Ram Gopal Varma, 158 mins.)
Chandu (Venkatesh Dagdugati) is a petty thief who comes across Satya (Sridevi), an innocent girl who unwittingly comes across a way to a huge amount of money stolen from a bank. While the gang that robbed the bank go after her for the clue, one member dies in her apartment and she believes she’s the one that killed him. Every one including the original gang that robbed the bank, the police and now Chandu and Satya go after the money.

Friday, April 5 @ 5.30 pm: Nagina (1986, Hindi, dir. Harmesh Malhotra, 137 mins.)
Rajiv (Rishi Kapoor) her to a wealthy feudal family falls in love with Rajni (Sridevi), who is an orphan, while his widowed mother (Sushma Seth) objects. Rajiv and Rajni get married and peace prevails, until their happiness is disrupted by the arrival of Bhangar Nath (Amrish Puri), an evil ascetic, who informs Rajiv’s mother that Rajni is in fact a shape-shifting venomous snake who has married Rajiv to avenge the death of her spouse during Rajiv’s childhood.

All screenings will be held in the MICA screening room,
Moving Image Collections & Archives, located in Wells Library (basement)

Please join us for Chat & Chai (snacks & tea) after each screening!
Courtesy of the Dhar India Studies Program, catered by Taste of India

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