

THE ADOPTION OF FOLK MUSIC IN HINDI FILMS DIRECTED BY VISHAL BHARDWAJ

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ABSTRACT

This research paper explores the integration of folk music in Hindi films directed by Vishal Bhardwaj, a film maker renowned for his culturally resonant adaptations. Bhardwaj's films, such as Maqbool (2003), Omkara (2006), and Haider (2014), employ folk music not merely as a stylistic element but as a narrative device that enhances cultural authenticity, emotional depth, and thematic resonance. The paper examines how Bhardwaj adapts regional folk traditions, particularly from North India, to reflect socio-political contexts and character identities. Through a qualitative analysis of his film soundtracks, interviews, and cinematic techniques, the study highlights the interplay between folk music and storytelling. The methodology includes content analysis of selected films, focusing on musical composition, lyrical content, and cultural symbolism. The findings reveal that Bhardwaj's use of folk music bridges traditional Indian aesthetics with modern cinematic narratives, challenging the dominance of mainstream Bollywood music. This research contributes to understanding how folk music in Hindi cinema preserves cultural heritage while addressing contemporary issues. It underscores Bhardwaj's role as an auteur who redefines the sonic landscape of Indian cinema through folk traditions.

KEYWORDS: *Integration, Composition, Dominance, Renowned, Contemporary.*

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