



# BREAKING BARRIERS - THE CASTELESS COLLECTIVE

by Maja Meiners



## SYNOPSIS

The Casteless Collective is a protest music band from Chennai, South India. Founded in December 2017, the 15-piece band plays an exciting mix of the folk music form of Gaana, an art coming from North Chennai's slum areas, and the modern musical styles of Rap and Rock. The driving beats of their songs come with lyrics of exceptionally put in-your-face-truths about social issues that the Indian society usually prefers not to look at too closely. The band deals with the oppressed social standing of women in Indian society, of LGBTQI+ people, and especially of the marginalized and underprivileged caste communities, represented by a large extent of the bandmembers themselves.

## FESTIVALS

2020

Chennai Int. Doc&Short FF, India

Sheffield Doc/Fest,

London Indian FF

Indo German Filmweek Berlin

WOMEX World Music Expo Budapest

New Generation Independent Indian FF

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Maja Meiners

India, Germany 2020

70 min

FORMAL CATEGORIES

Arts/Culture, Music

CONTENT CATEGORIES

Music video

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

Tamil, English

PREMIERE

India (2020)

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