
REEL ASIAN
FILM FESTIVAL
it's a BIG deal.
TORONTO
reel asian
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
15th Anniversary Edition
November 8 – 19, 2011
reelasian.com
Major Sponsor:
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TORONTO REEL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
401 RICHMOND ST W, SUITE 309
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M5V 3A8, CANADA

T: 416 703 9333
F: 416 703 9986
INFO@REELASIAN.COM
REELASIAN.COM

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION NUMBER: 8700 21 38 3RR 0001



BACK (Left-Right): Eva Ho, Henry Wong, Tina Zafreen Alam, Sonia Sakamoto-Jog, Gina Rim, Louanne Chan, Joyce Wong. FRONT (Left-Right): Nobi Nakamura, Heather Keung, Aram Siu Wai Collier, Selena Lee, Chris Chin, Bjorn Hochschild. (Missing: Vicci Ho)

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival, Canada's largest Asian film festival, and we are both amazed and elated to be here. Over the past 15 years, Reel Asian has risen to become the leading exhibitor of Asian films in Canada, presenting work by some of Asian cinema's most celebrated filmmakers: Cannes Palme d'Or winner Apichatpong Weerasethakul, Oscar™-nominated Christine Choy, Genie Award winner Yung Chang, Governor-General's Award winner Paul Wong, and acclaimed Hong Kong director Johnnie To, to name only a few. Reel Asian has also dedicated itself to showcasing films being made right here in our own backyard, by Canada's smartest, funniest, and most thought-provoking Asian filmmakers, telling stories that are distinctly Canadian and distinctly ours.

This year, Reel Asian brings more incredible work from across Asia, including the Opening Night Gala, *Lover's Discourse*, a star-studded journey through infatuation, betrayal, and ultimately love from directors Derek Tsang and Jimmy Wan. Our Centrepiece Presentation, *Jump Ashin!*, is a heart-warming tale from Taiwan of a young gymnast who follows his dreams. And the festival closes with *Buddha Mountain*, a powerful drama about two generations in China in the aftermath of the Sichuan earthquake.

We are also pleased to announce a second festival weekend in Richmond Hill, a film-loving community whose enthusiastic audiences have welcomed us whole-heartedly since we expanded our festival in 2010. In Richmond Hill we open with the highly anticipated Hong Kong blockbuster *Overheard 2* from directors Felix Chong and Alan Mak.

Reel Asian's Industry Series continues to foster Asian talent through networking opportunities and industry-focused workshops. Look for past winners of our annual *So You Think You Can Pitch?* competition—*Sugar Bowl* in the Trailblazers Shorts Presentation, and *Searching for Wonder* in the Crossroads Youth Presentation.

Fifteen years doesn't happen without incredible support from the community. A huge and heartfelt thank you to our government liaisons, community organizations, festival sponsors, interns, volunteers, board of directors, and staff for your passion and commitment. We simply wouldn't be here without you. Let the celebrations begin!

Sonia Sakamoto-Jog
Executive Director

I started programming for Reel Asian in the spring of 2006, the year of its 10th anniversary. Now, six festivals later and celebrating our 15th anniversary, I'm given the opportunity to reflect on all the joy and insight I've gained from being a part of this organization. When I first started, I didn't really understand the significance of an organization like Reel Asian, and how truly special it was. In Toronto, we are surrounded by generations of Asian communities and audiences of all backgrounds with a genuine interest in Asian culture and art. Our unique situation provides a rich context for presenting Asian film and media arts.

This year's programming highlights work by incredible local talent. *Pearls of the Far East* is a cinematically stunning debut feature by Vietnamese-Canadian director Cuong Ngo, based on love stories by award-winning Vietnamese author Nguyen Thi Minh Ngoc. Our Canadian Spotlight on Lily Eng looks at one of Canada's first Asian performance artists, who blew Western audiences away with her powerful combination of formal dance, conceptual art, and martial arts. In a two-part exhibition at the Blackwood and A Space galleries in collaboration with LIFT, we present four new commissions inspired by an archive of 35mm Hong Kong films from the 1960s, '70s, and '80s, recovered by Colin Geddes from the basement of what is now Toronto's Royal Theatre (and this year's main festival venue). Installations include *Never A Foot Too Far, Even* by Daïchi Saïto, *Yokai & Other Spirits* by Cindy Mochizuki, *Snake's Shadow* by Louise Noguchi, and *Officer Tuba Meets the Happy Ghost* by soJin Chun.

This year brings a diverse selection of feature films from China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Vietnam, and more. Original, significant, and relevant, these films create a deeper understanding of true friendship, human rights, and artistic freedom. We also welcome International Programming Consultant Vicci Ho to Reel Asian, and I would like to thank her and our hardworking programming committees, talented artists, and directors for bringing together this year's deep and varied lineup of thought-provoking films. Enjoy the festival.

Heather Keung
Artistic Director



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Festival Merchandise
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Howie Shia, PPF House

Festival Video Producer
Dean Vargas

Festival Trailer
Producer/Director: Joyce Wong
Campaign: Beehive Design
Cast: Franco Nguyen
Copywriter: David Strasser
Production Manager: Eva Ho
Cinematographer: Maya Bankovic
Production Designer: Sonia Hong
Editor: Chris Murphy
Sound Design: Chandra Bulucon
Gaffer: Jeff Hanley
1st Camera Assistant: Justin Crouch
Swing: Joel Kim
Make-up: Meena Patel
Production Assistants: Batotsyren Bazarov, Sam Ho, Mahmud Moral, David Schmidt, Thila Vijayan
Production Designer's Assistant: Tara Newell
Production Stills: Lisa Bang, Batotsyren Bazarov
Location: The Fox Theatre

Festival Trailer Extras
Tanya Barretto, Jon Bunning, Chris Chin, Natalia Chiu, Barnett Chow, Daryl Chow, Aram Collier, Rebecca French, Jason Karman, Heather Keung, Francis Klein, Harvey Lalonde, Elena Lau, Hyunse Lee, Young Wook Lee, April Lim, Philbert Lui, Ashley Perl, John Tran, Shiren Van Cooten, Dean Vargas, Samara Wolofsky, Mary Yang, Suu-Ann Yang, Arthur Yeung, Colin Zavitz

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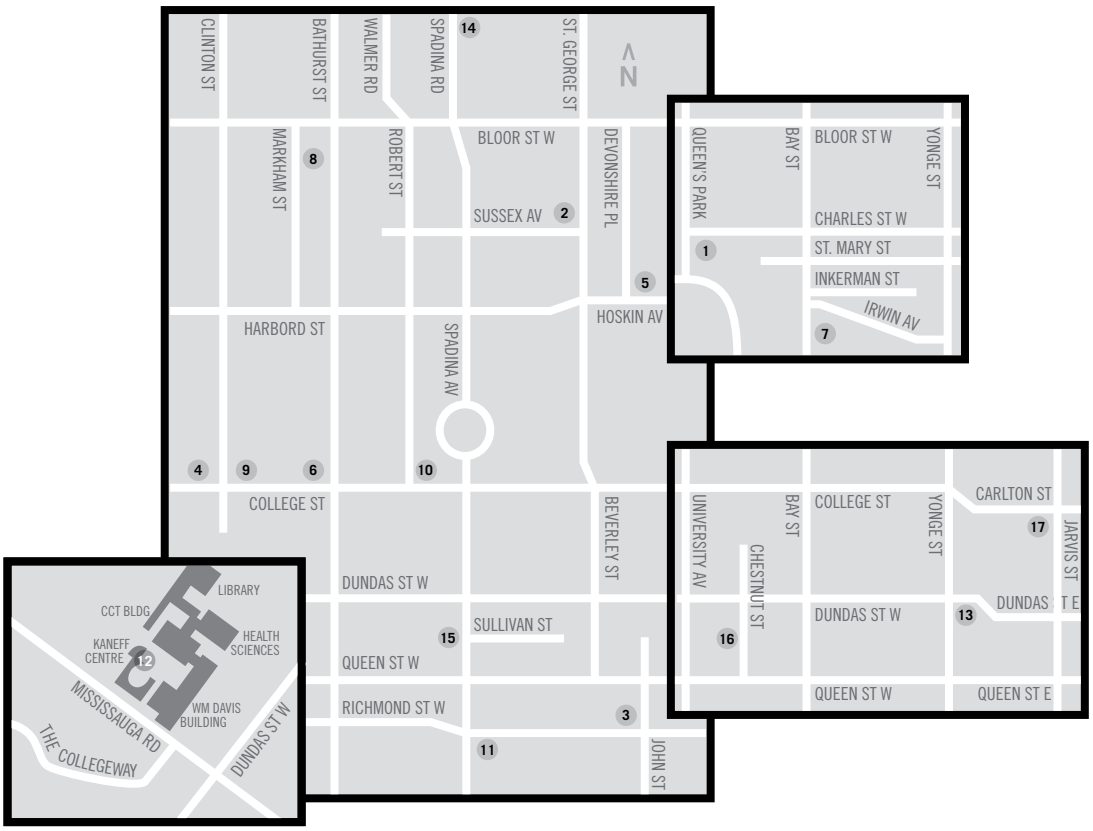
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TORONTO VENUE MAP & TICKETING



Screening & Industry Venues

1. Isabel Bader Theatre
   93 Charles St W @ Queen's Park
2. Innis Town Hall
   2 Sussex Ave @ St. George
3. National Film Board
   150 John St @ Richmond St W
4. The Royal Theatre
   608 College St @ Clinton
5. Munk School of Global Affairs
   1 Devonshire Place @ Hoskin
6. No One Writes to the Colonel
   460 College St @ Bathurst

Special Events Venues

7. Crown Princess
   1033 Bay St, S of St. Mary
8. The Central
   603 Markham St @ Bloor St W
9. Bar Italia
   582 College St @ Clinton
10. Rancho Relaxo
    300 College St @ Robert

Lost Secrets of the Royal Venues

11. A Space Gallery
    401 Richmond St W @ Spadina
    Suite 110
12. Blackwood Gallery
    Kaneff Centre, UTM
    3359 Mississauga Rd

Advance Box Office

13. T.O. Tix
    Yonge Dundas Square

Accommodations

14. Annex Quest House
    83 Spadina Rd @ Kendal
15. Super 8 Toronto City Centre
    222 Spadina Ave @ Sullivan
16. Metropolitan Hotel
    108 Chestnut St, S of Dundas
17. Best Western Primrose Hotel
    Downtown Toronto
    111 Carlton St @ Jarvis

BEFORE THE FESTIVAL

- Online sales begin at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, Oct 11 through reelasian.com (powered by TicketWeb). Online sales continue during the festival (see During the Festival).
- Walk-up sales begin at 12:00 PM on Wednesday, Oct 12 through T.O. Tix at Yonge Dundas Square (open Tuesdays through Saturdays 12:00 PM-6:30 PM)–last day for walk-up advance sales is Saturday, Nov 5; for future-day tickets during the festival, see During the Festival.
- Charge-by-phone by calling 1 888 222 6608, starting 6:00 PM on Tuesday, Oct 11, until 11:55 PM on Monday, Nov 7. Phone sales continue during the festival (see During the Festival).
- Pre-Arranged Group Sales: available by calling 416 703 9333 between 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM on weekdays. Group sales may be arranged starting Wednesday, Oct 12, until Friday, Nov 4. No pre-arranged group sales during the festival.

ticketweb.ca T.O. TIX

DURING THE FESTIVAL

Future Day Tickets

- Online sales through reelasian.com until 11:55 PM the day before the show
- Walk-up sales (cash only) at the Future Day Sales Desk at these venues, starting when the box office opens (an hour before the first show of the day): Innis Town Hall, Nov 9 & 10; The Royal Theatre, Nov 11 & 12–this desk closes 20 minutes after start of the last show of the day
- Charge-by-phone: 1 888 222 6608 until 11:55 PM the day before the show

Same Day Tickets (available one hour before the screening)
Walk-up sales at each venue–cash only

Tickets and Passes

	Regular Price	Discount Price *
Regular Screenings	$12	$10
Youth Screenings	$5	n/a
Opening Night Gala (incl party)	$20	$15
Closing Night Gala (incl party)	$15	$12
Centrepiece Presentation	$15	$12
Festival Pass	$80	$65
Industry Series Pass	$40	$36
4-Pak (no galas or centrepiece, in advance only)	$36	$30

*Discount applies to students (with valid current ID), seniors over 65 (no ID required), or volume sales (more than 10 tickets to any one show). All ticket and pass item sales are final–no refunds or exchanges. Admission to all events is subject to availability. For pass items, please see the back of the pass for additional terms & conditions specific to their use.

For Richmond Hill ticketing details, see Page 61.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

		10AM	11AM	12NOON	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM
FRI OCT 21	CELEBRATION SCREENING							
TUES NOV 08	SCREENING							
	SPECIAL EVENT							
WED NOV 09	SCREENING				1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | NFB Cinema YOUTH PRESENTATION: **CROSSROADS** (P.17)			
	INDUSTRY SERIES		11:00 AM - 12:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **FESTIVAL BOOTCAMP** (P.58)		1:00 PM - 2:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **CROWDED HOUSE: CROWD-FUNDING CASE STUDIES** (P.58)		3:00 PM - 4:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **LIKE! THIS PANEL - SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY FOR FILMMAKERS** (P.58)	
	SPECIAL EVENT							
THU NOV 10	SCREENING				1:00 PM - 2:30 PM NFB Cinema YOUTH PRESENTATION: **CREATURES** (P.25)		3:00 PM - 4:15 PM NFB Cinema YOUTH PRESENTATION: **RESIDENT ALIENS** (P.27)	
	INDUSTRY SERIES		11:00 AM - 12:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **ARTIST TALK:** **DEREK TSANG** (P.58)		1:00 PM - 3:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **REEL ASIAN SPEED DATING** (P.58)		3:00 PM - 5:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **REEL ASIAN MEET MARKET** (P.58)	
FRI NOV 11	SCREENING							
	INDUSTRY SERIES				1:00 PM - 3:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **IT'S NOT PERSONAL, IT'S BUSINESS** (P.59)			4:00 PM - 6:00 PM | N **NOT ALL CANDY: CON** **DETERMINED YOUTH** **CINEMA** (P.59)
	SPECIAL EVENT							
SAT NOV 12	SCREENING			12:00 PM - 2:00 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **THE JOURNALS OF MUSAN** (P.39)		2:45 PM - 4:45 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **BLEAK NIGHT** (P.41)		
	INDUSTRY SERIES		11:00 AM - 2:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **SCRIPTWRITING: WHAT NOT TO WRITE** (P.59)		1:00 PM - 2:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **A VISIT FROM THE NSI** (P.59)		3:00 PM - 4:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **WHITHER ASIAN NORTH AMERICA MEDIA?** (P.59)	
	SPECIAL EVENT						3:00 PM - 4:00 PM A Space Gallery ARTIST TALK: **LOST SECRETS** (P.19)	
SUN NOV 13	SCREENING				1:00 PM - 2:45 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **ETERNITY** (P.49)		3:00 PM - 4:30 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **SURROGATE VALENTINE** (P.51)	
	INDUSTRY SERIES		11:00 AM - 12:30 PM The Royal **SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH?** **LIVE FINALE** (P.59)		1:00 PM - 3:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel **NSI INDUSTRY SERIES RECEPTION** (P.59)			
	SPECIAL EVENT							
FRI NOV 18	SCREENING							
FRI NOV 19	ENCORE SCREENING					1:30 PM - 3:15 PM RHCPA FEATURE PRESENTATION: **SAIGON ELECTRIC** (P.63)		4:00 PM - 6:15 PM RHCPA FEATURE PRESENTATI **BLEAK NIGHT** (P.63)

5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM	1AM
			8:00 PM - 9:40 PM | Innis Town Hall FREE FEATURE PRESENTATION: **NIGHT MARKET HERO** (P.13)					
		7:00 PM - 9:30 PM | Isabel Bader Theatre OPENING NIGHT GALA: **LOVER'S DISCOURSE** (P.15)						
				9:30 PM - 12:00 AM | Crown Princess OPENING NIGHT GALA PARTY (P.15)				
	6:45 PM - 8:15 PM Innis Town Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: **SUMMER PASTURE** (P.21)		8:45 PM - 10:15 PM Innis Town Hall SHORTS PRESENTATION: **TRAILBLAZERS** (P.23)					
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Blackwood Gallery EXHIBITION & RECEPTION **LOST SECRETS OF THE ROYAL** (P.18)								
	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM | Innis Town Hall CANADIAN SPOTLIGHT: **LILY ENG: REAL ASIAN CANADIAN WOMAN WARRIOR** (P.28-29)			8:45 PM - 11:00 PM Innis Town Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: **FORTUNE TELLER** (P.31)				
	6:15 PM - 8:00 PM The Royal SHORTS PRESENTATION: **SEIZE THE MOMENT** (P.33)			8:45 PM - 10:30 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **SAIGON ELECTRIC** (P.35)		11:30 PM - 1:15 AM | The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST: THE SACRED STAR OF MILOS** (P.37)		
Munk School **MPLICATED AND** **IN TAIWANESE**								
					10:00 PM - 2:00 AM Rancho Relaxo LIVE SCORE ENCORE (P.35)			
5:15 PM - 7:00 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **WHEN LOVES COMES** (P.43)			7:45 PM - 9:45 PM The Royal CENTREPIECE PRESENTATION: **JUMP ASHIN!** (P.45)		10:30 PM - 12:00 AM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **PIERCING 1** (P.47)			
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM A Space Gallery EXHIBITION & RECEPTION **LOST SECRETS OF THE ROYAL** (P.19)					10:00 PM - 1:00 AM The Central BIG DEAL KARAOKE (P.45)			
5:00 PM - 6:45 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: **PEARLS OF THE FAR EAST** (P.53)			8:00 PM - 10:15 PM The Royal CLOSING NIGHT GALA & AWARDS CEREMONY: **BUDDHA MOUNTAIN** (P.55)					
					10:00 PM - 1:00 AM Bar Italia CLOSING NIGHT GALA (P.55)			
		7:00 PM - 9:00 PM RHCPA RICHMOND HILL OPENING NIGHT: **OVERHEAD 2** (P.62)						
ON:		7:00 PM - 9:00 PM RHCPA RICHMOND HILL CLOSING NIGHT: **JUMP ASHIN!** (P.63)						

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GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA

It is a pleasure to send my warmest greetings to those in attendance at the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

The participating artists have a well-deserved reputation for creativity and excellence, both at home and abroad. Canadian filmmakers bring into focus our experience as human beings, inspiring us, making us laugh, and encouraging us to reflect upon our lives and the times in which we live.

This festival is an opportunity for artists of Asian descent to showcase their unique styles to the world. Their innovative approach to storytelling encourages viewers to see past the veneer of the everyday and to explore new possibilities in myriad forms.

I am pleased to see these extraordinary talents being recognized and celebrated during the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

I wish everyone a wonderful experience.

David Johnston
Governor-General



PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 2011 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

Since its inauguration in 1997, the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival has become a much anticipated annual event for industry experts and film enthusiasts alike. This year's festival promises to be equally memorable. Over the course of the next eight days, audiences will have the opportunity to view a fascinating and broad mix of films and videos from Asia and the Asian Diaspora that will leave them both enlightened and entertained. Filmmakers, on the other hand, are sure to benefit greatly from the workshops, panel discussions, and networking opportunities offered through the Festival's cornerstone: the Industry Series.

I would like to congratulate all those presenting their work this year for bringing their talent, passion, and cultural heritage to the screen. I would also like to commend the festival organizers, sponsors, and volunteers for their efforts to support Asian culture and heritage.

Please accept my best wishes for a most rewarding experience.

The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper,
P.C., M.P.



MINISTER OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

Welcome to the 2011 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

Our Government recognizes the importance of arts and culture in strengthening our communities, our identity, and our economy. We also understand that the art of film–with its popular appeal, its insights into other cultures and perspectives, and its power to enlighten and entertain–makes an important contribution to our cultural landscape.

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival is Canada's largest showcase of films and videos from Asia and the Asian diaspora.

Our Government is proud to invest in this unique festival, which attracts thousands of attendees and hundreds of filmmakers and industry representatives. We are pleased to help Reel Asian provide professional development to aspiring local fimmakers, through its Industry Series, and give Canadian and international film artists the opportunity to gain exposure and learn from one another.

On behalf of Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the Government of Canada, I thank the Festival's organizers, artists, and volunteers for their dedication to supporting Canadian artists and promoting diversity in the Canadian film industry.

The Hon. James Moore
Minister



SENATOR

On behalf of the Senate of Canada, I would like to congratulate the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival on the occasion of your 15th annual festival from November 8-19, 2011 featuring eight great days of screenings, panels and celebrations, and showcasing over 50 titles.

This year's presentations include documentaries, dramas, animation, and artistic expressions from East Asian and Southeast Asian directors representing China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, and, of course, Canada and the USA.

This year, Reel Asian is excited to present the *Lost Secrets of the Royal*, a commission inspired by a large collection of 35mm Hong Kong films from the 1960s through the '80s, discovered by Toronto programmer Colin Geddes, and featuring new works by Canadian artists.

East meets West in Canada's premier pan-Asian film and video festival, through cultural and artistic exchanges that foster a growing appreciation for Asian cinema in Canada, as the Reel Asian Film Festival educates, and entertains, all those in attendance.

Yours truly,

Vivienne Poy
Senator





CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

Congratulations to all the artists, arts professionals and organizers, donors, and volunteers who have invested time, talent, and money in making the 15th edition of this festival an outstanding showcase for films from Asia and the Asian diaspora.

Enjoyment of the arts is an essential part of a rich and fulfilling life, and the Canada Council for the Arts is proud to support and encourage the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival as part of a diverse and vibrant arts scene that benefits all Canadians.

The festival is a valuable link in the wide network of organizations ensuring that Canadians across the country and of many different origins have ready access to the dynamic, innovative work of contemporary artists in Canada and around the world.

We wish everyone participating in the Reel Asian festival several wonderful days of film-going and film activities across a broad range of cinematic forms. Reel Asian provides important opportunities for artists and audiences alike to make cross-cultural connections, strike up new alliances, and explore new paths.

Joseph L. Rotman
Chair

Simon Brault, O.C.
Vice-Chair



TELEFILM CANADA

Telefilm Canada is proud to be a part of the 15th Annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival and to salute the extraordinary talent that this nation generates. It is events such as this that strengthen the industry as a whole by drawing attention to Canadian production, developing talent and promoting creative collaboration. At Telefilm, our objective is to foster cultural success by supporting talent throughout Canada, and to encourage the production of content that appeals to audiences both at home and abroad.

Our cinema entertains, enlightens, informs and challenges; it cultivates dialogue about our identity and our values. It represents us on the international stage, shapes our sense of belonging and contributes to the diversity of our society.

Thank you to the organizers of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival for bringing us together to celebrate the breadth of talent in our communities. This event gives audiences the opportunity to discover outstanding work and to enjoy the latest in home-grown cinema.

Enjoy the festival!

Carolle Brabant
Executive Director – Telefilm Canada



NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

The 15th edition of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival is a unique showcase where film lovers can enjoy a rich variety of works from Asia and the Asian diaspora.

The National Film Board of Canada (NFB) is dedicated to supporting emerging and established artists from culturally diverse communities, to reflect the face of Canada today. As part of our ongoing commitment to these creators, we are presenting the Best Canadian Film or Video Award at this year's edition of the festival.

After the festival, I invite you to check out some of the award-winning productions available online, free of charge, at NFB.ca and on our acclaimed mobile apps.

Have a wonderful festival!

La 15e édition du Festival du film Reel Asian est une vitrine unique qui propose aux cinéphiles une riche variété d'œuvres provenant des pays d'Asie et de la diaspora asiatique.

L'Office national du film du Canada (ONF) s'emploie à soutenir les artistes établis et de la relève issus des diverses communautés ethnoculturelles de manière à refléter le visage du Canada d'aujourd'hui. Dans le cadre de son engagement soutenu à l'égard de ces créateurs et créatrices, l'ONF présente cette année le prix de la meilleure œuvre canadienne – film ou vidéo.

Après le Festival, je vous invite à regarder gratuitement quelques-unes de nos productions primées à ONF.ca ou sur votre appareil mobile grâce à nos réputées applications mobiles.

Bon Festival!

Tom Perlmutter
Government Film Commissioner and Chairperson
Commissaire du gouvernement à la cinématographie et président



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO

I am very pleased to extend greetings to the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival as you host your 15th Annual event in Toronto and Richmond Hill.

Since your inception in 1997, you have fostered a greater understanding of the film creations of many cultures from Asia and the Asian Diaspora, and in doing so, you are now the country's largest and longest-running showcase of this kind. This year over 50 titles will be presented encompassing drama, documentary, animation, and more. As well, you host guest speakers and special events such as panel discussions and workshops, all providing opportunities for professional development for filmmakers.

As The Queen's representative in Ontario, I laud the celebrated achievements of this much anticipated annual event, congratulate the artists participating, and send my best wishes for another successful festival.

David C. Onley
Lieutenant Governor



MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

It is a great pleasure and honour for me to welcome you to the 15th annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival, Canada's oldest and largest pan-Asian international film festival.

Over 50 titles will be showcased at this year's festival through various entertaining and thought-provoking genres, including drama, documentary, animation, and art-house cinema. These films are the products of directors from countries including but not limited to Japan, South Korea, China, the Philippines, the USA, Taiwan, and Vietnam.

This fall hundreds of filmmakers and industry representatives—as well as thousands of audience members—will meet to attend eight days of screenings, panels, and celebrations.

One of the highlights of the festival is the Industry Series, now in its sixth year, which focuses on professional development for local filmmakers. This series provides networking and real opportunities for new and aspiring filmmakers, including the annual pitch competition that awards two teams with support to complete their upcoming films.

What I truly love about this festival is that it aims to build community in multiple ways; be it through increasing the understanding and appreciation of our diverse cultures and their corresponding issues via film, or through providing opportunities for audiences, seasoned professionals, and volunteers to come together to celebrate the best of contemporary Asian cinema.

Please enjoy this year's Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival in all it offers in building community and industry.

Sincerely,

Olivia Chow
Member of Parliament



ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION

On behalf of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, please accept my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 15th annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation has long been a Festival supporter. We are gratified to see this important film and video showcase for Asia and the Asian diaspora grow in popularity.

Specifically, OTF is pleased to help strengthen Toronto Reel Asian's capacity as a community-builder by supporting its exciting expansion into Richmond Hill, Scarborough, and Markham.

Congratulations on advancing the public's understanding and appreciation of the historical, social, and cultural contributions of people of Asian and Asian-Canadian heritage.

Au nom de la Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario (FTO), j'offre mes salutations les plus chaleureuses à toutes les personnes qui assistent à la 15e édition annuelle du Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

La Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario appuie ce festival depuis plusieurs années. Nous sommes heureux de constater que cette importante vitrine du film et de la vidéo pour l'Asie et la diaspora asiatique gagne en popularité.

La FTO est particulièrement heureuse d'aider à renforcer la capacité du Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival en tant que bâtisseur communautaire, en appuyant son déploiement stimulant à Richmond Hill, Scarborough et Markham.

Je vous félicite pour la façon dont vous faites progresser la compréhension et la reconnaissance du public envers la contribution historique, sociale et culturelle des Asiatiques ainsi que des Canadiens d'origine asiatique.

L. Robin Cardozo
Chef Executive Officer | Chef de la direction



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL

On behalf of the Ontario Arts Council (OAC), please accept my warmest welcome to the 15th Reel Asian International Film Festival.

Reel Asian is Canada's leading showcase of works by East Asian and Southeast Asian filmmakers. It has contributed to a growing awareness and appreciation for Asian cinema. In addition to delighting film lovers, this festival also provides a great platform for filmmakers and industry representatives to convene and build connections.

Congratulations to everyone involved with this year's festival and for your commitment to bringing the very best of Asian film to Ontario each year. We wish you continued success.

Martha Durdin
Chair



ONTARIO MEDIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Ontario Media Development Corporation (OMDC) is proud to be a sponsor of the 15th annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival. The festival reflects our commitment to diversity as a fundamental component of Ontario's creative economy.

An agency of the Government of Ontario, OMDC plays a leading role in supporting the province's creative economy by providing innovative programs, services, and funding for the film and television; book and magazine publishing; interactive digital media; and music industries. Ontario's creative media companies have developed a thriving, multibillion dollar industry with 300,000 jobs and a wealth of opportunity.

OMDC is pleased to support events that encourage growth and promote skills development and networking opportunities. Through initiatives such as Reel Asian's Industry Series–now in its sixth year–the festival has become the leading professional development and networking destination for Asian Canadian filmmakers.

OMDC congratulates the entire festival team and volunteers for their commitment to bringing the very best up-and-coming filmmakers to Toronto each November. We wish you a very successful festival!

Sincerely,

Karen Thorne-Stone
President & CEO



MAYOR OF TORONTO

I am pleased to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the 15th annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

Toronto is recognized as an international centre for the film industry. It is home to many accomplished film and media artists whose talent and high standards of excellence have greatly enriched our entertainment and arts industries.

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival is one of the largest annual film festivals in Canada dedicated to the presentation of films and videos from Asia and the Asian Diaspora. The Festival aims to increase understanding and appreciation of Toronto's many diverse communities through thought-provoking dramas, documentaries, animation, and artful cinema.

I congratulate festival organizers, filmmakers, industry representatives, and movie enthusiasts participating in this year's festival for your contribution to the enhancement of Toronto's film industry.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable festival and continued success.

Yours truly,

Rob Ford
Mayor
City of Toronto



CITY COUNCILLOR

Welcome to the 2011 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival!

As the City Councillor representing Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina, I am delighted to offer my congratulations to the festival on its milestone 15th Anniversary Edition.

Reel Asian is Canada's largest and longest-running showcase of film and video from Asia and the Asian Diaspora, and a great opportunity to celebrate and explore Toronto's rich cultural diversity. Once again screenings will be taking place in Ward 20, and our community will have the chance to enjoy films of many genres–and an exciting exhibition–by an outstanding collection of artists and directors.

In addition to the exciting program of films, the festival's Industry Series and pitch competition continue to foster and support local filmmakers, contributing to Toronto's status as a centre for exceptional filmmaking.

I commend the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival on its continued success, and extend my thanks to all of the hardworking staff and volunteers. And, to the audience: Enjoy!

Best regards,

Adam Vaughan
City Councillor
Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina



MAYOR OF RICHMOND HILL

On behalf of the Members of Council, I am very pleased to bring greetings to everyone attending the 15th annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

This wonderful festival aims to increase understanding and appreciation for diverse cultures and issues surrounding the Toronto area. The festival places an emphasis on building community and provides a great opportunity to reflect on our community as we watch films from both emerging and veteran independent film makers of East and Southeast Asian descent.

We are delighted to see this film festival expand into Richmond Hill and utilize our facilities at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.

Enjoy the Festivities!

Yours very truly,

Dave Barrow
Mayor



TORONTO ARTS COUNCIL

Toronto Arts Council is a proud supporter of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival. Through the Toronto Arts Council, the City of Toronto invests public funds to allow hundreds of arts organizations, such as Reel Asian International Film Festival, to offer accessible, affordable, and original work to Toronto audiences.

After 15 years, the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival has become an important forum in Toronto for the presentation of feature and short films and videos from Canada and around the world. In presenting work by both highly acclaimed as well as emerging artists, the Festival reflects a rich diversity of contemporary Asian film that might be otherwise unavailable.

I am sure audiences will enjoy this extraordinary festival. Congratulations to the staff and volunteers that make it happen!

Karen Tisch
President






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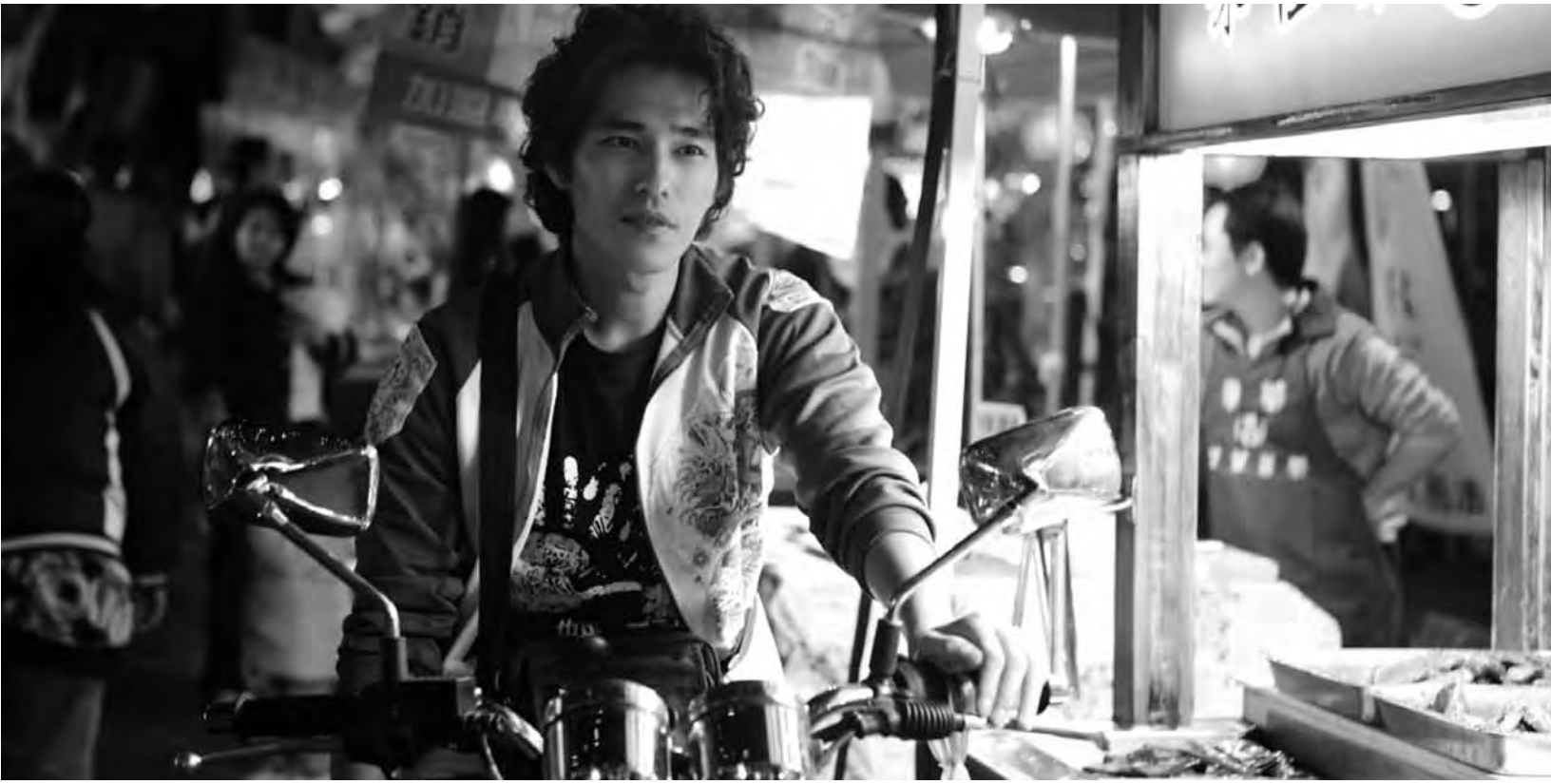
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NIGHT MARKET HERO
雞排英雄

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG
Dir. Tien-Lun Yeh | Taiwan 2011 | 100:00 | 35mm | Mandarin w/Eng. sub.
Cast: Lan Zheng-Long, Alice Ko, Hiseh Yu-Chen, Lotus Wang

Tien-Lun Yeh's debut feature, *Night Market Hero* (*Fried Chicken Hero* in Mandarin), is a heartwarming story about the battle of an outrageous group of food vendors against political and bureaucratic corruption.

Set in the bustling 888 Night Market in Taipei, the film follows the vendors as they compete to win over customers using taste-offs and beauty contests. A-hwa is their handsome union leader, equally devoted to the market and his grandmother. Under his leadership, little rivalries, unspoken romances, and trivial disputes are all part of the fun; at the end of the day, the biggest question is, "Which is better—chicken or steak?"

But the vendors face larger worries when they learn that a real estate company is planning to build a mall where the market is located. Their livelihoods are at stake, and they realize that they must work together or be pushed out. The 888 vendors work with the media to reveal their stories of hardship and family dreams, hoping to win the hearts of the public and thus save their way of life.

Known for their mouth-watering delicacies, cheap goods, and colourful atmosphere, night markets are a central part of Taiwanese culture. This nostalgic comedy was inspired by the director's experiences as part of the Night Market Vendor Theatre Troupe and was co-written by his sister, Tan-Ching Yeh. In an effort to make the performances more authentic, the director had the actors learn the skills of traditional night market vendors, like how to deep-fry chicken steaks and how to perfect the art of Chinese facial threading.

- Heather Keung



Tien-Lun Yeh *graduated from the Department of Radio, Television, and Film at Shih Hsin University and studied in Theatre Arts at Taipei National University of the Arts. Before he was a film director, Tien-Lun was an actor, a radio voice artist, and a scriptwriter and director for Taiwanese television.*

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Become a member today, and receive special member-only ticket packages, discounts on ticket purchases, and front-of-the-line access to screenings.

Your support helps nurture the growing appreciation for Asian cinema in Canada, and plays a key role in sustaining and growing Reel Asian's programming and operations.

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Goldfish ($25 to $149)
Goldfish Members receive
- Member discounts on ticket purchases (up to 25% off regular price)
- Advance seating
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- 1 Festival 10-pack*
- Advance seating at all screenings
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- Admission to Opening Night Gala Party
- Invitation to Red Carpet reception
- $50 gift certificate to Yuzu Restaurant
- Festival bag and t-shirt
- Reel Asian Member button
- Your name listed on the festival website

OR

- A charitable tax receipt

Panda ($500 *or* 50,000 Aeroplan points)
Panda Members receive:
- 2 Festival 10-packs*
- Reserved seating for 2 at every screening
- Admission for 2 to Opening Night Gala Party
- Invitation for 2 to Red Carpet reception
- $50 gift certificate to Yuzu Restaurant
- Festival bag and t-shirt
- Reel Asian Member button
- Your name listed on the festival website

OR

- A charitable tax receipt

Tiger ($1000 *or* 100,000 Aeroplan points)
Tiger Members receive:
- 2 Festival 10-packs*
- Reserved seating for 2 at every screening
- 6 tickets for the Opening Night Gala
- Admission for 2 to Opening Night Gala Party
- Invitation for 2 to Red Carpet reception
- $50 gift certificate to Yuzu Restaurant
- 2 Festival t-shirts and bags
- Reel Asian Member button
- Your name listed on the festival website

OR

- A charitable tax receipt

**Festival 10-packs are available exclusively to Reel Asian members and are not for sale to the public. Festival 10-packs are valid for 10 admissions (including galas), maximum 2 admissions to any screening, worth over $160 in value.*

To become a member, please visit www.reelasian.com, or visit us during the festival at our Membership and Merchandise Kiosk, located near the Festival Box Office.



LOVER'S DISCOURSE
戀人絮語

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED 14A
Dir. Derek Tsang Kwok Cheung, Jimmy Wan | Hong Kong 2011 | 118:00 | 35mm | Cantonese w/Eng. sub.
Producers: William Kong, Ho-Cheung Pang | Cast: Eason Chan, Karena Lam, Kay Tse, Eric Tsang
Director in attendance

Lover's Discourse is an irresistible four-part film about an eclectic group of seemingly unconnected characters in Hong Kong who are fixated on love. Their stories become intertwined as directors Tsang and Wan move through various stages of love, betrayal, and redemption.

Hong Kong star Eason Chan and Canadian actress Karena Lam play former lovers who meet on a crowded Causeway Bay corner. Over drinks, their musings reveal an endearing and almost guilt-free intimacy.

A quirky laundromat worker (singer Kay Tse) has a crush on one of her customers (Eddie Peng). After she salvages items from the clothes he drops off for cleaning, she indulges in whimsical fantasies about him.

A school boy is obsessed with his friend's mother (singer Kit Chan). His intense lingering gazes are dismissed by her at first, until he discovers her husband (Eric Tsang) is fooling around.

Two individuals (Jacky Heung and Mavis Fan) join forces to tail their romantic partners when they suspect them of being unfaithful.

In this debut film, Tsang and Wan employ various styles to tell their stories, including polished drama and grainy fantasy, in order to create tension while also relying on unspoken interactions to reveal the fragility of relationships and the desperation of blind love.

- Heather Keung





Derek Tsang Kwok Cheung *was born into the entertainment business in Hong Kong. He began his career at Peter Chan's Applause Pictures following his studies in Canada. He has since worked at all levels of production for the Pang Brothers and Pang Ho-Cheung.*
Jimmy Wan *was born in Hong Kong and graduated from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He has worked in advertising and film production; he began his film career with Pang Ho-Cheung.* Lover's Discourse *is Tsang and Wan's feature debut.*

OPENING NIGHT GALA PARTY

TUE NOV 8 | 9:30 PM
Crown Princess | 1033 Bay St (S of St. Mary St)
$10 | Free with Opening Night ticket stub

Join Reel Asian to celebrate the opening of our 15th anniversary edition at the luxurious Crown Princess, Toronto's paragon of Hong Kong-style fine dining. Enjoy a sumptuous selection of dim sum beneath crystal chandeliers while you groove to the sweet sounds of DJ Winnie.

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CROSSROADS

RATED PG

At a crossroads, these youth confront generational differences, look beyond their everyday lives, and ultimately discover their own dreams.

– Selena Lee

SEARCHING FOR WONDER

Dir. Tricia Lee* | Canada 2011 | 6:00

A street magician helps Kevin, a 12-year-old prodigy who attends university and lives on the fringe of an adult world, renew his sense of wonder and rediscover his childhood.

Tricia Lee *graduated from York University and won the 2010 Reel Asian So You Think You Can Pitch Award, a Bravo!FACT grant, and the NFB FAP Award for* Searching For Wonder. *She has produced and directed several projects for film and television and recently directed her first feature,* Clean Break.

FARAWAY

Dir. Janice Lee* | Canada 2011 | 14:45

French fries are a special food for Rachel and her grandmother. As they prepare New Year's Eve dinner, they learn to look beyond language and connect through the memories they share.

Janice Lee *is a Toronto-born filmmaker.* Faraway *is based on her own experiences of teaching English to her grandmother by using fast food items.*

PAPER WINGS

Dir. Vincent Toi | Canada 2011 | 7:00

A young boy and his grandfather visit an aviation centre and the boy's dreams lift him towards the sky.

Vincent Toi *spent his youth on the African island of Mauritius and came from the southern Chinese diaspora. He is an accomplished art director and is currently completing his studies in Film Production at Concordia University.*

BIRTHDAY

Dir. Jennifer Suhr | USA 2010 | 11:04

On the cusp of adulthood, 18-year-old Jae Lee helps at his family's convenience store. He finds himself at a crossroads with his father when he is invited to his crush's birthday party.

Jennifer Suhr *is a graduate from Yale University where she studied American Studies and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration. She is currently developing two feature-length projects.*

* Directors in Attendance

SUNDAY MENU

Dir. Liesl Nguyen | Germany 2011 | 24:30

Filmed in Berlin, Sunday Menu offers a poetic look into the world of a German-Vietnamese teenager as she confronts generational and cross-cultural conflicts through the ritualistic power of food.

Liesl Nguyen *is based in Berlin, Germany. She is a graduate from Brown University and is a freelance translator, writer, and video editor.*

CANOPY CROSSINGS

Dir. Gary Yong | Thailand/USA 2010 | 19:00

Penappa and Arthid are two teenagers in Thailand with an unusual routine: eight times a day, they must abruptly halt business in their market, move their stalls, and give way to the passing train.

Gary Yong *is currently completing an MFA in Film and Media Arts at Temple University. His work conveys the fluid state of being outside and between borders, unprotected and unclaimed.*

PRECEDED BY

ANIMATE THE ISSUES AT REELASIAN: PSA

This year, students attending Youth Presentations can participate in the NFB's Animate the Issues workshop. With social justice issues as their framework, participants in this workshop manipulate symbols, colours, movements, and found objects to create animated public service announcements. Students will learn basic stop-motion animation techniques and storytelling strategies. At the end of the workshop, students will see the results of their creative efforts on the big screen before the screening of Reel Asian's Youth Presentations.

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Toronto Youth Shorts Film Festival

LOST SECRETS OF THE ROYAL

Four new works commissioned by Liaison of Independent Filmmakers Toronto (LIFT) and Reel Asian, and presented at the Blackwood Gallery and A Space Gallery.

Co-Curators: Ben Donoghue and Heather Keung

Donoghue and Keung began discussions in 2008 about possible collaborations using LIFT's archive of 35mm Hong Kong films from the 1960s, '70s, and '80s, recovered by Colin Geddes from the basement of what is now Toronto's Royal Theatre. The collection includes period dramas, comedies, martial arts, and pink films. All the prints in the collection are incomplete and in various stages of decay and discolouration.

Artists were invited to produce new works that could challenge the source material and break with overtly didactic collage-based composition. Emerging from this are four projects by contemporary Asian-Canadian artists that challenge cinematic narrative, locational identity, movement, and technologies. With the generous support of a commissioning grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, the following projects that began as concepts borne from the shelves of decaying film have finally emerged, fresh and vital, in their exhibition spaces.

- Ben Donoghue

WED NOV 9 | 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM | BLACKWOOD GALLERY

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Bus departs Blackwood at 8:30 PM

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Wednesday: 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Saturday to Sunday: 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

BLACKWOOD GALLERY



NEVER A FOOT TOO FAR, EVEN

Daïchi Saïto | Canada 2011 | 2 x 16mm Projection Loops

Appropriating a brief fragment from a 35mm print of a 1970s kung fu film, *Never a Foot Too Far, Even* creates an action movie without action. Presented as a double projection with two 16mm film projectors and loopers, the chemically and optically manipulated images are overlaid to form a single composition. Focusing on an obscure figure caught between perpetual motion and stasis, the painterly images fluctuate in a complex shifting of colour and texture, phasing in and out through a polymetric structure. The installation also features a new audio composition by Malcolm Goldstein.

*Montreal-based Japanese filmmaker **Daïchi Saïto** has exhibited in numerous venues worldwide. His work explores the relation between the corporeal phenomena of vision and the material nature of the medium, fusing a formal investigation of frame and juxtaposition with sensual and poetic expressions.*



PHOTO: Dalia Vukmirovich

YOKAI & OTHER SPIRITS

Cindy Mochizuki | Canada 2011 | HD Video, Glass Case, Fog Machine, Telephone

Paranormal phenomena are common in Asian films, literature, and popular culture. In Japanese folklore, for instance, yokai are a class of supernatural creatures that often shape-shift and play tricks on humans. This interactive, animated, and sound-based installation repeats a key moment in the 35mm film *Happy Ghost 3*, when the lead ghost calls "home" through various phone booths throughout the city. The animated projection is an accumulation of hand-traced frames of the original film through rotoscoping. The film explores the interiority of the archive and, like an X-ray print, uses light as a means to make visible what we cannot normally see. This work uses the presence of audience members to trigger the projections and sounds; without their actions, the film lies unseen and unheard, leaving only the stark presence of the scenic and museological props.

With sound design by Antoine Bédard, programming and electronics by Bobbi Kozinuk, and construction design by Minoru Yamamoto.

***Cindy Mochizuki** is an interdisciplinary artist with a practice that moves across several forms, including drawing, animation, multimedia, and performance. Her body of work explores cultural memory and experimental narratives that play with the space of the documentary and the imagined. She lives and works in Vancouver.*

A SPACE GALLERY



SNAKE'S SHADOW

Louise Noguchi | Canada 2011 | 3 x HD Video

Louise Noguchi's three-channel video installation, *Snake's Shadow*, fills three walls with an intricately executed sequence of dance and motion composed from high-definition scans of 35mm CinemaScope action films. These archetypal fragments of fight scenes are recomposed with a newly commissioned soundtrack into a dizzying mix of movement and light. The work is divided into four acts across three channels, assembling a sequence of pivotal moments without an end. Noguchi writes of the work: "Maybe having to accept real endings and loss, as opposed to staged drama, which is seductive, is what viewers may perceive of the sequencing; although, others may have another reaction to the ending."

*Toronto-born **Louise Noguchi** works in video, photography, sculpture, and other media. Noguchi's concepts confront the spectators' notions of identity, perception, and reality. Her recent videos have examined tourist locations and key monuments of her Canadian and ancestral histories in terms of cultural memory and experience.*



OFFICER TUBA MEETS THE HAPPY GHOST

soJin Chun | Canada 2011 | HD Video, Lightbox

soJin Chun combines characters appropriated from two Hong Kong films and digitally rotoscopes them into contemporary Super 8mm film footage shot in São Paulo, and Toronto. Pulled from their Hong Kong settings, these characters are recast as Koreans, playing with western perceptions of Asian identity. The ruptures and continuity of culture within diasporic communities frame these figures displaced in time, space, language, and culture. Chun builds a small cinema within the gallery, complete with illuminated film poster, but the physical form of the cinema—its narrative conventions, framing, and representative structure—is broken.

***soJin Chun** is a photo and video artist based in Toronto. Her work demonstrates narratives from diasporic positioning, exploring the fluid nature of identity within a place. Her work has exhibited internationally, including in the United States, Serbia, Mexico, England, France, Argentina, and Bolivia.*

SAT NOV 12 | 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM | A SPACE GALLERY

ARTIST TALK

WIth Daïchi Saïto, Cindy Mochizuki,
Louise Noguchi, soJin Chun

SAT NOV 12 | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM | A SPACE GALLERY

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SUMMER PASTURE

དབྱར་མཚེར།

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED G
Dir. Lynn True, Nelson Walker | Tibet/USA 2010 | 85:00 | DigiBeta | Tibetan w/Eng. sub.
Co-Producer/Co-Director: Tsering Perlo | Directors in attendance

Summer Pasture is a feature-length documentary about a young nomadic couple living with their infant daughter in the high grasslands of Eastern Tibet. Filmed during the summer of 2007, *Summer Pasture* offers rare access to an area seldom visited by outsiders—the highly insular community of Dzachukha, nicknamed "5-most" by the Chinese for being the highest, coldest, poorest, largest, and most remote area in Sichuan Province.

Locho and his wife, Yama, depend on their herd of yaks for survival, just as their ancestors have for generations. In recent years, however, Dzachukha has undergone rapid development, which poses unprecedented challenges to nomadic life. Rigid government policies, rangeland degradation, and the allure of modern life have prompted many nomadic families to leave the pastures for permanent settlement in towns and cities. According to the nomads, the world has entered duegnan—dark times.

Summer Pasture is a sensitive portrait of a family at a time of great transition, and the film evolves as an intimate exploration of Locho and Yama's personalities, their relationship, and the complicated web of circumstances that surrounds them. The documentary captures their travails with illness, infidelity, and the dissolution of their community. In the face of mounting obstacles, Locho and Yama gradually reveal the personal sacrifice they will make to ensure their daughter's future. Through its subtle observation of the central characters, *Summer Pasture* provides a deeply personal account of family survival and what it means to be a nomad in a swiftly modernizing world.





***Lynn True** graduated in Urban Studies and Architecture from Brown University and began her film career at NBC News and PBS.*
***Nelson Walker** has a BA from Brown University and an MFA from Columbia University. He began his career working for the Discovery Channel and History Channel. He has worked as a visiting instructor at Tibet University in Lhasa. Their independent films include* iThemba|Hope *(Sundance Channel 2005) and* LUMO *(PBS's POV series 2007).*

Inspiration Award Honorable Mention—Full Frame Documentary Festival 2010
Official Selection—Locarno Film Festival 2010

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A Drummer's Passion

TRAILBLAZERS

RATED 14A

These tales are a refreshing contrast to the many sombre testimonials about the injustices and hardships our elders have faced. These delightful stories tell of seniors who have boldly and bravely carved their own paths; who continue to celebrate their unique identities; who express their artistic desires; and who party like there's no tomorrow!

– Heather Keung

TOTTE MITSU, LET'S GO TO RUSSIA

Dir. Brian Lye | Canada 2005 | 8:47 | Japanese w/Eng. sub.

Two women fight over a camera in this spontaneous film made with the director's Japanese host mother and her friend.

***Brian Lye** is a Vancouver-based director who incorporates humour and imagination into personal stories.*

GRANNY'S ROCK (BABAH NO ROCK)

Dir. Satoru Yasuda | Japan 2010 | 21:50 | Japanese w/Eng. sub.

Miya Yumemi is a 68-year-old artist in Tokyo who is often dismissed as a "crazy" person on the street. However, when director Yasuda first met her, he was intrigued by her commitment to having an outrageous amount of fun every night; he was further fascinated by the thousands upon thousands of unique drawings she has made over her lifetime.

***Satoru Yasuda** is a director based in Japan and works with CALF, a company that represents Japanese shorts and animation around the world.*

GRANDPA'S WET DREAM

Dir. Chihiro Amemiya | Japan/USA 2011 | 16:00 | Japanese w/Eng. sub.

A 75-year-old Japanese man has been acting in adult videos for 15 years without telling his family.

***Chihiro Amemiya** was born in Japan and is currently based in New York. She was recently a Women's International Leadership Program Fellow at the International House of New York.*

* Directors in Attendance

A DRUMMER'S PASSION

Dir. Mingu Kim* | Canada 2011 | 12:00 | English/Korean w/Eng. sub.

A 70-year-old South Korean legend, Kwon Soon Keun, is an explosive drummer who is famous for his wild and extraordinary showmanship.

***Mingu Kim** was born in Busan, South Korea, and began his career as a camera operator in 2007.* A Drummer's Passion *is his first documentary.*

SUGAR BOWL

Dir. Shasha Nakhai*, Rich Williamson* | Canada 2011 | 23:00
English/Ilonggo w/Eng. sub.

Eccentric and endearing characters takes us through the rise and fall of an island in the Philippines and its sugarcane industry. Winner of the 2010 Reel Asian Charles Street Video So You Think You Can Pitch? Award.

***Shasha Nakhai** was born in the Philippines. Her first documentary,* Baby Not Mine, *about Filipino caregivers in Canada, won awards at the Human Rights DocFest and Montreal World Film Festival.*
***Rich Williamson** graduated from Ryerson University and is currently in post-production with his first feature documentary film,* Happy Joe.

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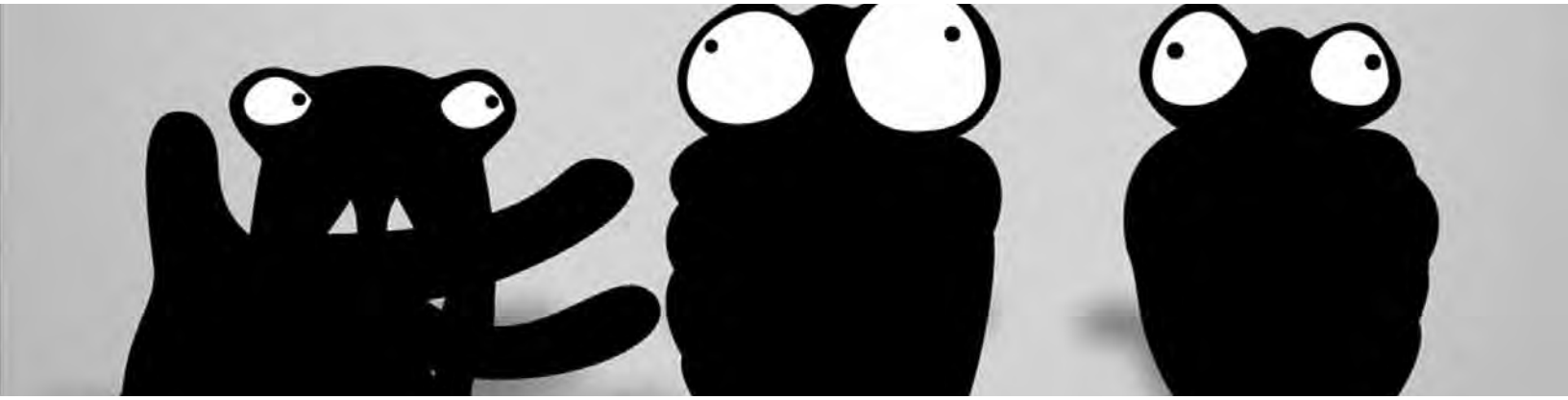
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Recombination

CREATURES

RATED PG

Creepy, crawly, and cute: these creatures open doors to our imagination.

– Selena Lee

SKETCHI

Dir. Lily Sun* | Canada 2010 | 3:00

A girl struggles to revive her beloved dog.

***Lily Sun** is a graduate of Sheridan College, with a Bachelor of Applied Arts in Animation.*

HANG IN THERE

Dir. Leslie Supnet | Canada 2009 | 3:20

A nightmarish short about a young couple and a troubled bear.

***Leslie Supnet** was featured at Reel Asian in 2009 and has shown internationally at festivals such as International Film Festival Rotterdam.*

PAPER WORLD

Dir. Blair Fukumura* | Canada 2011 | 5:55

The playful journey of a paper boy who is rescued by a forgotten Japanese paper doll.

***Blair Fukumura** is a multimedia artist from Winnipeg. He has been featured at Reel Asian, LA Shorts Fest, and Inside Out.*

BEAUTY QUEEN

Dir. Lena Hayoung Chun | Canada 2009 | 6:40

A composited animation about a young woman conflicted by the commodification of beauty.

***Lena Hayoung Chun** is an animator and multimedia artist. She is an OCAD graduate and has shown work in Toronto, Seoul, and New York.*

WHAT REMAINS

Dir. Stefanie Wong | Canada 2010 | 4:26

As a young girl drifts through imaginary and real worlds, she encounters a mysterious creature in a closet of memories.

***Stefanie Wong** is a graduate from the Alberta College of Art + Design. Her diverse art practice combines textile, film, and animation.*

LIBANGBANG (FLYING FISH)

Dir. Chia-Chi Tseng | USA 2010 | 4:37

The flying fish are creatures that connect the land, air, and people. This film is dedicated to the people of Orchid Island.

***Chia-Chi Tseng** is a multimedia artist who received her MFA from the University of Southern California.*

* Directors in Attendance

TATAMP

Dir. Mirai Mizue | Japan 2011 | 5:38

Chaotic patterns emerge onscreen and a melody develops in this experiment to synchronize our visual and auditory senses.

***Mirai Mizue** was born in 1981 in Tokyo and studied animation at Tama Art University from 2002. His films have been shown in more than 100 festivals around the world.*

RECOMBINATION

Dir. Bum Lee | South Korea 2011 | 3:00

Who will prevail in this evolutionary race—the Swimmers or the Eaters?

***Bum Lee** is a graduate from Carnegie Mellon University and now lives in Seoul. He was the recipient of a Fulbright grant to South Korea.*

PLANET Z

Dir. Momoko Seto | France/Japan 2011 | 9:30

Plants rule on Planet Z and all seems harmonious and delicate until, little by little, a destructive fungus upsets the balance of the ecosystem.

***Momoko Seto** recently won Best Movie at the Festival International du Film Merveilleux in Paris and was in official selection at Berlinale 2011.*

IN A PIG'S EYE

Dir. Atsushi Wada | Japan 2010 | 10:10

Bizarre and captivating, this animation portrays a family's interactions with a giant pig outside their home.

***Atsushi Wada** was born in Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, in 1980. He studied at Osaka Kyoiku University, Image Forum Institute of Moving Image, and Tokyo University of the Arts.*

HAND SOAP

Dir. Kei Oyama | Japan 2008 | 16:00

A grotesque coming-of-age story that portrays the insecurities of an adolescent son who is obsessed with his body and his ill-at-ease family.

***Kei Oyama** is a graduate from the Image Forum Institute of Moving Image and Tokyo Zokei University.*

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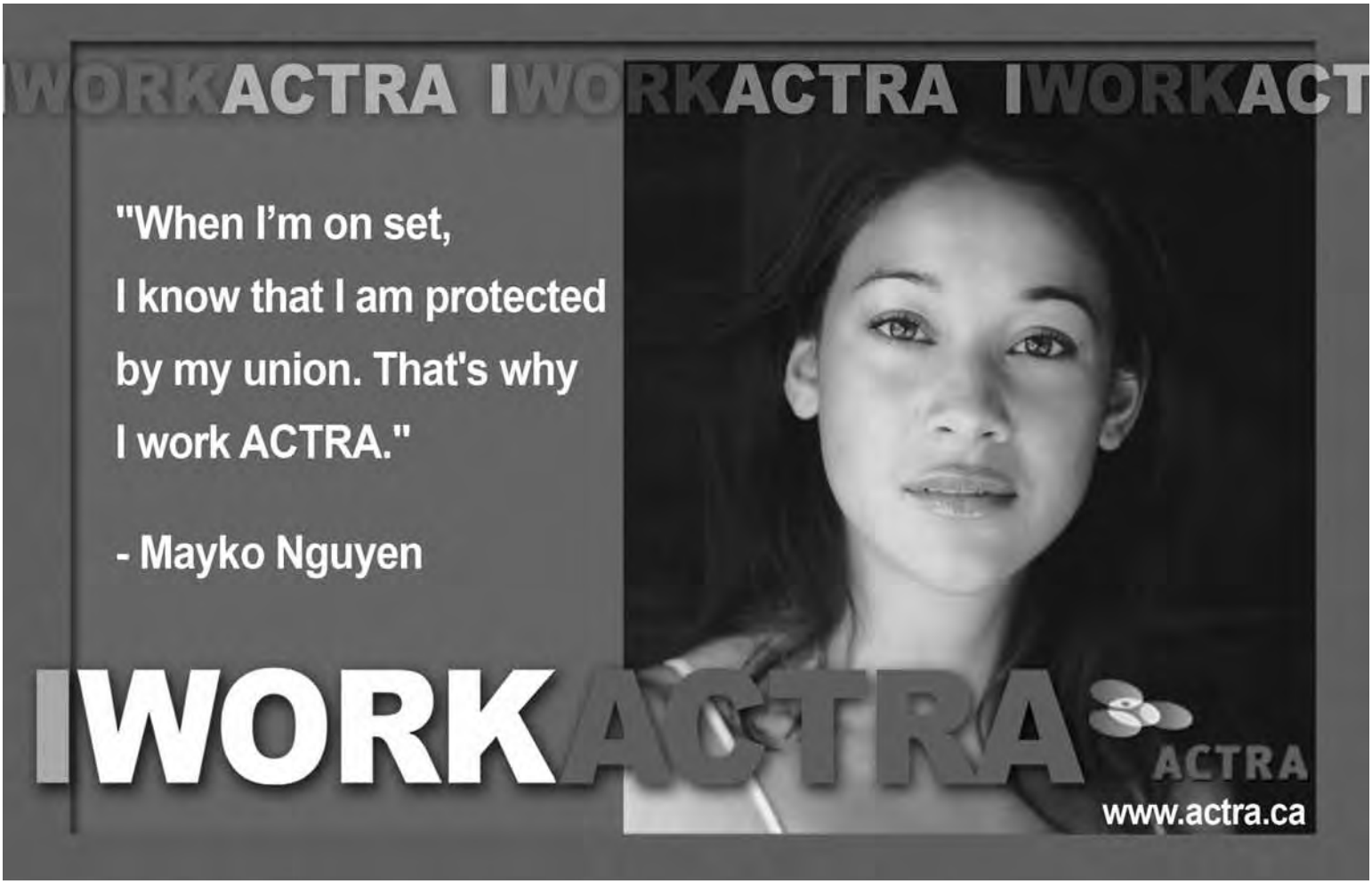
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ANIMATE THE ISSUES AT REELASIAN: PSA

See Page 17





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RESIDENT ALIENS

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 14A
Dir. Ross Tuttle | Cambodia/USA 2011 | 52:00 | Betacam SP | English/Khmer w/Eng. sub.

Resident Aliens is an eye-opening account of three Cambodian-Americans—ex-cons—who were forced to return to their native country. In 2002, the US began deporting Cambodian immigrants who held criminal records in the United States; many of them had immigrated as infants or children following the Cambodian genocide. As a result, the deportees find themselves alone in an unknown country where they don't speak the language and don't know the culture; they must somehow find a way to survive with few skills and little money, burdened with the knowledge that they can never return to the US.

China and Looney have little support as they struggle to acclimatize to life in Cambodia, while KK, a breakdancer who had to leave his son behind in the US, seeks redemption and attempts to turn his life around. With only his skills as a dancer, KK takes on the role of teacher and caregiver to a group of local children. As an outsider to Cambodian society, he faces the challenge of building a secure home for the kids and for himself.

- Selena Lee



Ross Tuttle *is a documentary producer/director and journalist living in New York City. He has produced programming for cable, network, and public television, including* Frontline, History Detectives*, and the theatrically released documentary* The King of Kong. *He was also an investigative reporter for* The Nation*, covering the Guantanamo Bay military trials.*

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ANIMATE THE ISSUES AT REELASIAN: PSA

See Page 17



TOP SPIN

Dir. Sara Newens, Mina T. Son | USA 2010 | 11:32

At 15 years old, Ariel Hsing is the youngest ever US Women's Singles Champion in table tennis. *Top Spin* shows Ariel's outstanding dedication, talent, and success, as well as the challenges she faces while mastering her sport.

Sara Newens *and* ***Mina. T. Son*** *are award-winning filmmakers and MFA graduates from Stanford University.* Top Spin *won Best Short Documentary at the San Diego Asian Film Festival.*

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LILY ENG: REAL ASIAN CANADIAN WOMAN WARRIOR

Lily Eng, best known for her conceptual work with Missing Associates, a performance art partnership, became one of the first Asian-Canadian performance artists over 30 years ago. Her original choreographed performances combine elegance and discipline with rawness and intensity. The Canadian Spotlight on Lily Eng will include a screening of her films, a presentation of rare photos, and a live performance.

Lily Eng grew up in Blind River, a small town in northern Ontario where her family, like the only other Asian family in town, operated a Chinese restaurant. At the age of 10, she moved to Toronto with her siblings and her mother; she attended Jarvis Collegiate Institute, studied gymnastics, and worked as a teen model. While auditioning for a hair commercial, Lily was discovered by New Yorker Elizabeth Swerdlow (Global Village Theatre), who successfully fought for an Asian—Lily—to be cast in the commercial. Elizabeth subsequently became Lily's mentor in dance theatre.

At Elizabeth's suggestion, Lily studied privately with teachers in classical ballet (Boris Volkoff, Gabrielle Blair, Lois Smith), modern dance/Martha Graham technique (David Earle, Peter Randazzo), and German expressionist dance (Master Frau Til Thiele). However, even during her early days as a performer, Lily realized that she wanted to find her own path. Through her apprenticeship at Hong Luck Kung Fu Association, she began to include her Eastern and Western influences in her artistic explorations.

In the early 1970s, Lily befriended Amerigo Marras, founder of the Centre for Experimental Art and Communication (CEAC). Marras admired Lily and encouraged her to deepen her practice of embracing emotions and the body as a research tool for a new counter-rational way of knowing.

With writer and filmmaker Peter Dudar, Lily formed Missing Associates in 1972, which was a counter to neo-Dada groups; the partnership artistically queried human behaviour, the body, and its relationship to the environment through a structural approach to improvisation and experimentation. Missing Associates' early work was "both a violent experience for the audience and a violence to the forms of dance (which were two moments of the same strategy)," wrote Philip Monk in his book *Language and Representation*.

Over the 10 years of their conceptual dance collaborations, Missing Associates performed in various Toronto venues, including the AGO, A Space Gallery, 15 Dance Laboratorium, and CEAC, as well as across Canada. Missing Associates was part of the first Canadian performance art tour in 1976 that travelled to Sweden, England, Scotland, and Italy. In 1977, Lily and other members of CEAC were invited by Joseph






Top Row (Left-Right): *Untitled* improv in Yugoslavia, Pavlychenko Studios photo by Larissa Pavlychenko, DP production still by Peter Dudar, *Sparring with the Camera* photo by Peter Dudar
Bottom Row (Left-Right): Pickering Powerplant photo by Corinne Palmer, *Crash Points* film still, *Dance of Terror* by Peter Dudar, *Spreading the Space Thinly* video still

Beuys to be part of his "Violence and Behaviour" workshop at the Free International University for Creativity and Interdisciplinary Research in Kassel, Germany.

In the early '80s, Lily turned her expressive and creative energies towards solo performances, presenting her full-length dance work *Life in the Trenches* in London, England, in 1985, as well as *But Women Did Come: 150 Years of Chinese Women to North America*, an exhibit that travelled throughout Canada and the US. Throughout the 1980s, she presented various works at Toronto's Pavlychenko Studio, renowned for its pioneering efforts in convening and incubating collaborations between artists of dance and other diverse disciplines.

Among her various community engagements, Lily has been greatly involved with Cahoots Theatre Projects, has sat on the board of the CanAsian Arts Group, has curated the Asian Eyes Film Festival, and has performed during numerous Asian Heritage Month events.

As part of A Space's 25th anniversary project, Lily was commissioned to create *On Performance*, a retrospective of her performance work that garnered accolades in *The Globe and Mail*, which included her in its annual Top 10 performances review in 1996.

As a follow-up, she created *[ENG]land*, a full-length multidisciplinary dance performance that further showcased her unique choreographic vocabulary, blending martial arts, improvisation, humour, and cultures.

Lily is a proud Chinese-Canadian and a certified kung fu teacher at Hong Luck Kung Fu Association, one of the longest running kung fu clubs in Canada.

- Coman Poon

WALKING | 1:00 | 16mm | 1974
WITHHELD | 25:00 (excerpt) | open reel video | 1975
HITTING IT SIDEWAYS | 10:00 | open reel video | 1975
CRASH POINTS | 10:00 (excerpt) | 16mm | 1976/1977
DOCUMENTA VI JOSEPH BEUYS FREE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY IMPROVISATIONS | 16:00 (excerpt) 3/4" Umatic video | 1977
PENETRATED (FEMALE & MALE) | 6:00 (excerpt) | 16mm 1977/1978
SPREADING THE SPACE THINLY | 28:00 (excerpt) 3/4" Umatic video | 1978
DANCE OF TERROR | 8:00 | 3/4" Umatic video | 1978
DP | 8:14 (excerpt) | 16mm | 1982
DRIVE | 5:00 | video | 1985

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FORTUNE TELLER
算命

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 14A
Dir. Xu Tong | China 2010 | 129:00 | Video | Mandarin w/Eng. sub.
Cast: Li Baicheng, Pearl Shi, You Xiaoyun

What is fortune but the timely collisions of people? In *Fortune Teller*, a candid and deeply revelatory look at individuals living on the fringes of Chinese society, the consequences of these collisions are unflinchingly peeled back and observed.

Li Baicheng is a charismatic fortune teller whose clientele consists mainly of prostitutes and shadowy figures. His job, like theirs, is commonplace but technically illegal in China. He practices his ancient craft in a village near Beijing while taking care of his deaf and mentally handicapped wife, Pearl, whom he rescued from familial mistreatment.

Winter brings a police crackdown on both fortune tellers and prostitutes, forcing Li and Pearl into temporary exile, during which they visit their hometowns and confront old family demons. The irony lies in the fortunes Li and the others so eagerly hand out, which remain out of reach for themselves.

In *Fortune Teller*, Xu Tong continues his work documenting the members of China's underclass, whose lives have gone largely unnoticed during the country's boom years. Xu spent a year filming nearly every detail of Li's daily existence and the ancient spiritual practices he administers. The camera catches every raw and familiar strand of human desire in these ordinary people's extraordinary lives, at once epic and startling. Li's humble story is punctuated by chapter headings reminiscent of Qing Dynasty popular fiction, further adding to the sheen of melodrama that so readily imitates real life.

- Grace Wang



Xu Tong *was born in Beijing in 1965. He graduated from Communication University of China with a major in film.* Wheat Harvest*, his first feature-length documentary, won the Red Chameleon at Korea's Cinema Digital Seoul (CinDi) in 2009 and was selected by the International Film Festival Rotterdam 2010.* Fortune Teller *is his second feature-length documentary.*

Official Selection—International Film Festival Rotterdam 2011
Jury Prize—China Documentary Film Festival 2010
Annual Top 10 Documentary Showcase—China Independent Film Festival 2009

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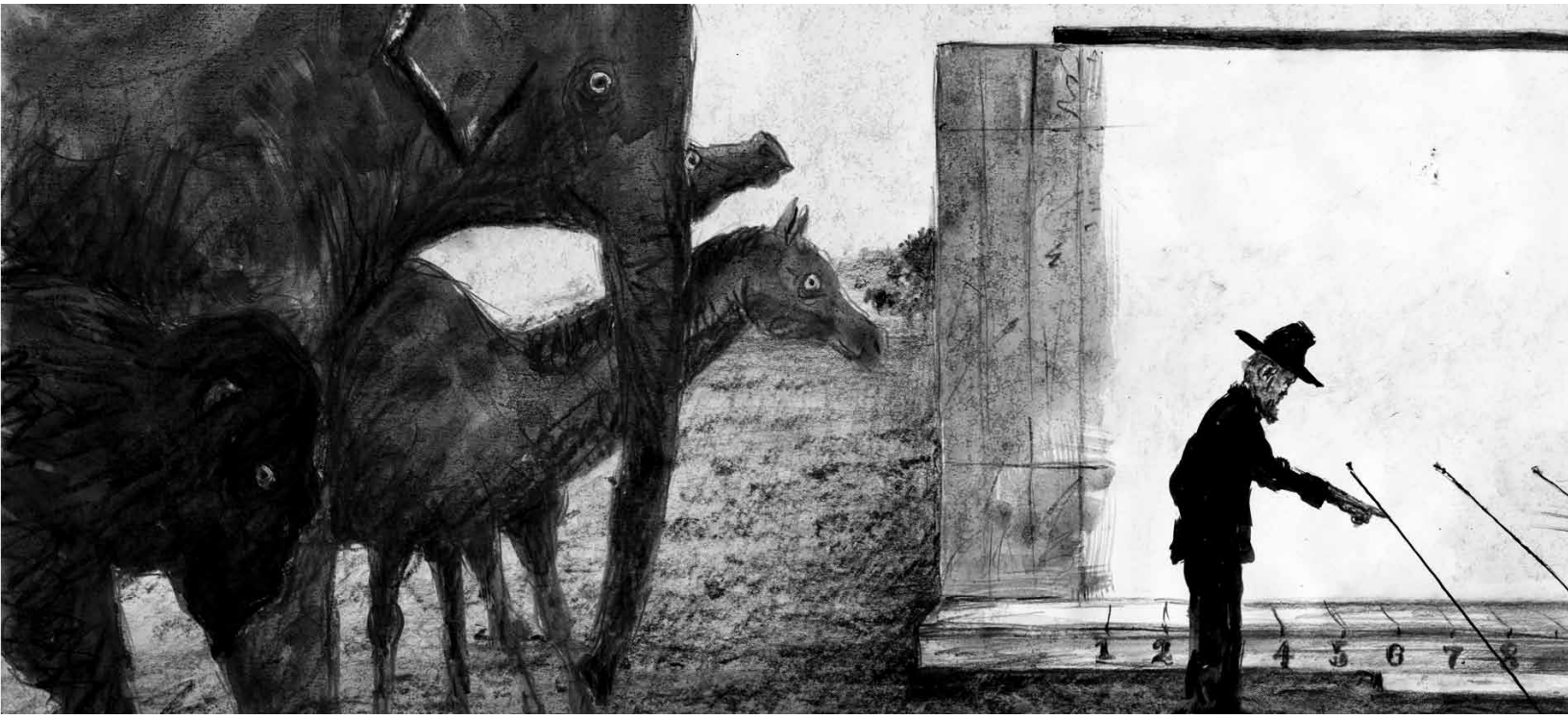
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SEIZE THE MOMENT

RATED PG

This year's best of Asian Canadian shorts look at daily fears and anxieties and demand us to seize the moment and take hold of life.

– Heather Keung

INSERT CREDIT

Dir. David Nguyen | Canada 2011 | 6:53

A playful retro video game tells the story of the director's coming of age and his issues with his father.

David Nguyen *was born in California and moved to Vancouver to study at Emily Carr University of Art and Design, but continues to say "soda" instead of "pop."*

MUYBRIDGE STRINGS (LES CORDES DE MUYBRIDGE)

Dir. Koji Yamamura | Canada/Japan 2011 | 12:39

Based on the life and work of photographer Eadweard Muybridge. Moving between a galloping horse, a mother's surrealistic daydreams, and Muybridge's troubled life, the film explores the irrepressible human desire to seize life's fleeting moments.

Oscar-nominated ***Koji Yamamura*** *is one of the leading Japanese independent animation filmmakers and was featured in a special spotlight presentation at Reel Asian in 2010. Producer Michael Fukushima will be in attendance.*

NO CONTRACT

Dir. Randall Lloyd Okita* | Canada 2011 | 8:21

An audience awaits in suspense and paramedics prepare for the worst as the director/performer prepares to set himself ablaze. Focusing on the manufacturing of spectacle while also creating magic on screen without computer graphic, the film makes use of mechanical sculpture and performance.

Randall Okita *is a Canadian Film Centre graduate with a broad range of experience in feature films, television, commercials, and documentaries. His short films—*Machine with Wishbone *and* Fish in Barrel*—both won awards at past editions of Reel Asian.*

* Directors in Attendance

PLANTS OUT OF THE SUNLIGHT

Dir. Vu Van (Franco) Nguyen* | Canada 2010 | 10:11

Mia works her fingers to the bone at a thankless factory job. She longs for a better relationship with her son, who has taken to staying out all night and sleeping all day.

Franco Nguyen *is a graduate of York University, a member of the Toronto comedy sketch troupe Asiansploitation, and this year's Reel Asian poster boy.*

LEFT-BEHIND WOMAN

Dir. Tony Lau* | Canada 2010 | 24:06 | Mandarin w/Eng. sub.

A documentary about women in the rural area of Benxi, China, and how the mass migration of male workers to more central cities affects their daily lives.

Tony Lau *was born in Hong Kong and is an MFA graduate in film from York University and an MA graduate in Communication and Social Justice from University of Windsor.*

A WINTER SONG (UNE CHANSON D'HIVER)

Dir. Aonan Yang* | Canada 2011 | 36:00 | French/Mandarin w/Eng. sub.

Based on a true story, with a cast of real corner store owners. A Chinese immigrant in Quebec awaits a medical diagnosis, worried about how he will face his wife and child with the possible bad news while he hides his symptoms and continues to work seven days a week.

Aonan Yang *graduated from Concordia University and was the first Canadian to win the top Kodak Educational Award in Cinematography. He has presented his films at festivals around the world.*

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CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED G
Dir. Stephane Gauger | USA/Vietnam 2011 | 98:00 | 35mm | Vietamese w/Eng. sub.
Cast: Van Trang, Quynh Hoa, Zen 04, Khuong Ngoc | Director in attendance

From the director of *Owl and the Sparrow* (Reel Asian 2007) comes a fresh new dance film with a distinctly Vietnamese flair. Featuring a cast of up-and-coming young dancers, the film is packed with awesome dance-offs and a ton of attitude.

Mai, a traditional ribbon dancer from the countryside, arrives in the big city of Saigon with hopes of being admitted to the national dance academy. After falling victim to her own insecurities and failing her auditions, Mai befriends a rebellious hip hop dancer named Kim and her dance crew of local street kids, Saigon Fresh.

The crew's biggest dream is to compete internationally, and to do so they must take on the national champs, North Killaz. One night, Kim's hard-headed pride gets her in trouble with the competition. After putting herself and the reputation of the crew at risk, she defiantly quits the team.

Selfish desires and a romance with a rich boy take Kim away and strain her friendship with Mai, who takes solace with Saigon Fresh's team captain. They grow closer as they spend time at the community centre where the dance crew trains; the captain shows Mai the meaning of hip hop while she teaches him the beauty of ribbon dancing.

When the community centre is threatened by a developer threatening to tear it down. Mai and the crew must dance for their lives to battle out a victory with their rivals and to save the only home they've known.

- Heather Keung



Stephane Gauger *was born in Saigon, and raised in Orange County, California. Gauger received a BA in Theatre Arts and French Literature from California State University, Fullerton. He has worked in the camera and lighting departments on independent films in the US and Southeast Asia. His feature directing debut,* Owl and the Sparrow, *has won over 15 awards at international film festivals.*

There will be an encore presentation of *Saigon Electric* on November 19 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. See Page 63.

LIVE SCORE ENCORE

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Reel Asian celebrates five years of live music showcases with the triumphant return of San Francisco-based singer/guitarist Goh Nakamura, who headlined the original Live Score showcase in 2006. Don't miss Nakamura's big-screen debut this year in *Surrogate Valentine* (see Page 51). Local musician Tim Shia and his band Figalo start the night off, then return for a joint set with Nakamura at the end of the night.

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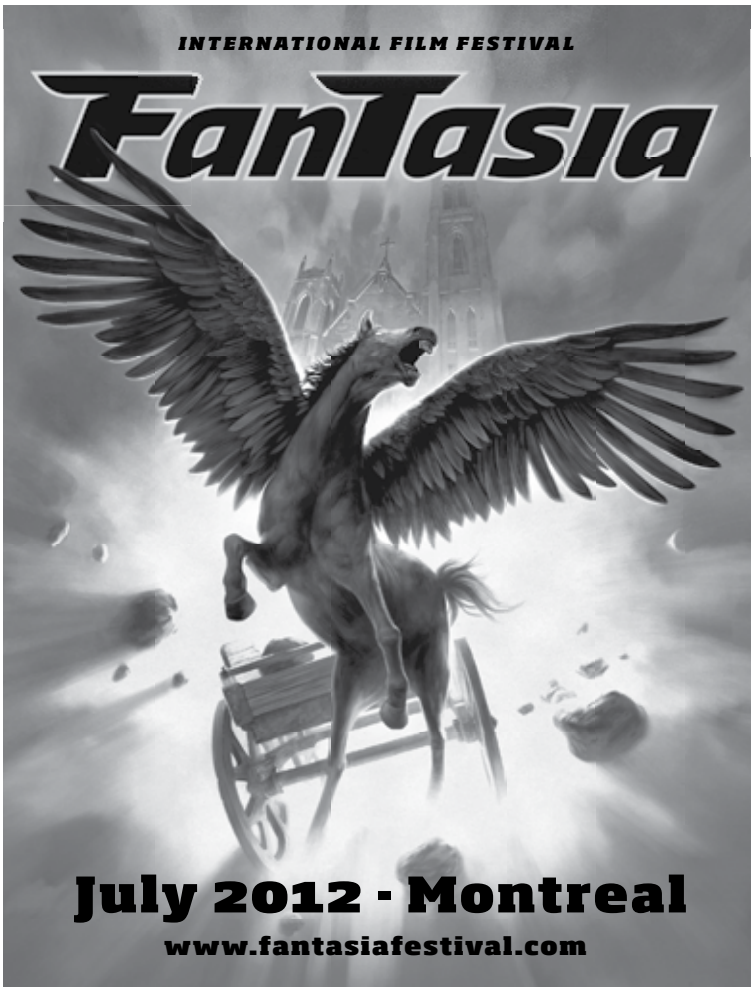
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FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST: THE SACRED STAR OF MILOS

鋼の錬金術師 嘆きの丘(ミロス)の聖なる星

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 14A
Dir. Murata Kasuya | Japan 2011 | 100:00 | HDcam | Japanese w/Eng. sub.
Cast: Romi Park, Rie Kugimiya, Maaya Sakamoto | Music: Tarou Iwashirou

Fullmetal Alchemist: The Sacred Star of Milos is the second feature film based on the Number One Japanese manga series written and illustrated by Hiromu Arakawa.

The legend is set in a fictional universe, styled after the European Industrial Revolution, where alchemy is one of the most advanced scientific techniques known to man. The story follows the infamous Elric brothers, Edward and Alphonse, who are searching for the legendary catalyst called the Philosopher's Stone, a powerful object that would allow them to restore their bodies, which were lost after a disastrous attempt to bring their mother back to life through alchemy.

The Elric brothers' attempt to track down a fugitive alchemist with mysterious abilities leads them to the slums of Milos Valley. Edward and Alphonse quickly find themselves in the middle of a rising rebellion as the exiled Milos struggle against bureaucratic exploitation and lash out against their oppressors. At the heart of the conflict is Julia, a young alchemist befriended by Alphonse. She'll stop at nothing to restore the Milos to their former glory—even if that means harnessing the awful power of the Philosopher's Stone.

The popularity of the *Fullmetal Alchemist* manga has resulted in numerous animated television series, spin-off novels, original video animations, video game series, and action figures. Its official theme song (*Good Luck My Way*) is performed by one of Japan's most influential pop bands, L'Arc-en-Ciel. By 2010, the manga had sold over 50 million volumes in Japan and was voted the most popular anime of all time in Japan.

- Heather Keung



Murata Kasuya *directed the following anime hits:* Eureka Seven, Pokémon, Code Geass: Lelouch of the Rebellion, Dennou Coil, Gunsmith Cats*, and* Steel Angel Kurumi.

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THE JOURNALS OF MUSAN
무산일기

New Currents Award—Busan International Film Festival 2010
Tiger Award—The Rotterdam International Film Festival 2011

Canadian Premiere | Rated 14A
Dir. Park Jungbum | South Korea 2010 | 127:00 | HDCam | Korean w/ Eng. sub.
Cast: Park Jungbum, Jin Yonguk, Kang Eunjin

Written and directed by Park Jungbum, *The Journals of Musan* is a gritty and bleak portrait of North Korean refugees living on the fringes of society in Seoul, South Korea. Park also stars in this deeply personal and moving tribute to his close friend, upon whom the film is based.

Jeong Seung-chul (Park), a North Korean refugee with a bowl haircut and quiet demeanour, is struggling to survive in Seoul. With an identity card that gives away his status and leaves him with zero employment prospects, he is stuck with low-end jobs on the streets that put him in frequent conflict with the gangsters that roam the area. While Kyung-chul, his friend from the North, gravitates to a capitalist lifestyle, Seung-chul finds solace in a church, where he develops feelings for Sook-young, a pretty churchgoer. Struggling to fit in and unwilling to compromise his values, Seung-chul feels increasingly isolated, with a stray dog as his only companion. When Kyung-chul gets into trouble with a failed business deal and seeks his help, Seung-chul is forced to make some difficult moral choices.

By portraying the lives of North Korean refugees, something rarely depicted in film, Park has crafted a striking drama about a man who fled a difficult life, only to find himself in an even more perilous existence. *The Journals of Musan* takes a stark look at the sacrifices one must make to survive in a complex and gruelling modern world.

- Vicci Ho



Park Jungbum *worked as assistant director on Lee Chang Dong's* Poetry, *and his first feature,* The Journals of Musan, *made its debut at the Pusan International Film Festival in 2010, winning the New Currents Award. It has since won numerous awards on the festival circuit.*

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BLEAK NIGHT
파수꾼

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG
Dir. Yoon Sung-Hyun | South Korea 2010 | 116:00 | HDcam | Korean w/Eng. sub.
Cast: Lee Je-Hoon, Seo Jun-Young, Park Jung-Min

Three best friends—Ki-tae, Dong-yoon, and Hee-june—attend an all-boys school in South Korea where they horse around and play fight as teenaged boys do. On the surface, the teasing and pranks at each others' expense, though cruel at times, seem like nothing more than the usual exchanges between close friends—even brothers. The dynamics between three people are never balanced, however, and it soon becomes apparent that there are subtle undercurrents of resentment that underlie the friendly banter.

Suddenly, and almost without any discernible reason, Dong-yoon finds himself caught in a power struggle between Ki-tae and Hee-june. Clueless and confused, Dong-yoon begs to know what has happened between them, but neither will confess, and their friendship abruptly devolves into an ugly, territorial, and violent rift. Alliances among their group of friends shift, and the joking exchanges and friendly brawls that occur between the boys take on an ominous tone. When the disagreement leads to a tragic end, the friends are left bewildered and forever fractured.

Director Yoon Sung-Hyun takes us into the dark and anxious heart of a young boy who, behind a carefully constructed image of confidence, collapses under the weight of his insecurities. This debut feature film reveals the complex and competitive power dynamics at play among teenaged boys, and is a dark reminder of how fragile young friendships can be.

- Sonia Sakamoto-Jog



Yoon Sung-Hyun *studied film at the Seoul Institute of the Arts and the Korean Academy of Film Arts and received a Special Jury Award from the Jeonju International Film Festival for his short film* Children *(2003).* Bleak Night*, Yoon's first feature film, won the New Currents Award at the Busan International Film Festival in 2010.*

New Currents Award—Busan International Film Festival 2010
FIPRESCI Award—Hong Kong International Film Festival 2011

There will be an encore presentation of *Bleak Night* on November 19 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. See Page 63.

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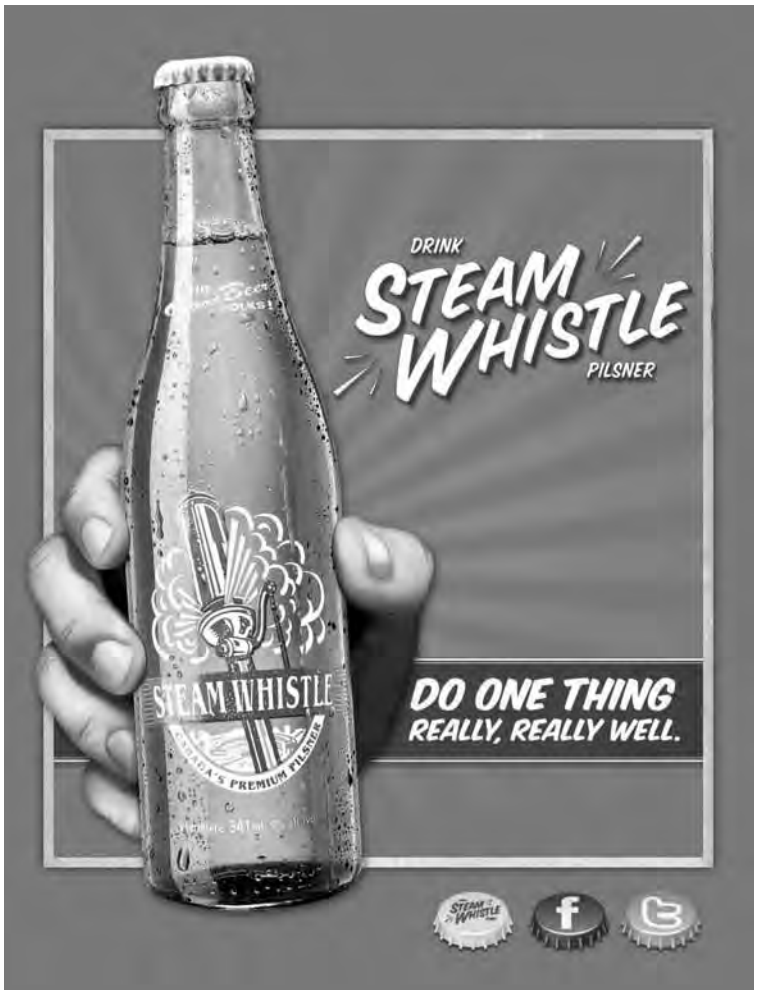
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WHEN LOVE COMES
當愛來的時候

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG
Dir. Chang Tso-Chi | Taiwan 2010 | 107:00 | 35mm | Mandarin w/Eng. sub.
Cast: Lee Yi-chieh, Ho Tzu-hua, Lin Yu-shun, Lü Hsueh-feng

Lai-chun—played by Lee Yi-chieh, winner of the Best New Talent prize at the Taipei International Film Festival—is a flirtatious 16-year-old girl living in a claustrophobic house with her complicated family in Taipei. The family is made up of the matriach of the house (Lü Hsueh-feng), her father Dark Face (Lin Yu-shun), her mother (Ho Tzu-hua), her grandfather, her younger sister, her autistic uncle, and her newborn baby brother.

The family runs a small restaurant in a shopping arcade while Lai-chun lives in her own world, distant from her family. She spends her days dreaming about boys, but when her irresponsibility turns her life upside down and her boyfriend abandons her, she must change the way she runs her life.

When a family member suddenly dies and the family begins to unravel, it becomes increasingly clear that there is no room for Lai-chun's teenaged sulkiness and self-absorption.

When Love Comes is a heartfelt film that tells the story of a dysfunctional but loving family that must find strength and love in one another during its most difficult times.

Director Chang Tso-chi is undoubtedly one of Taiwan's most notable directors. Working-class family conflicts and social alienation are common elements of his work. *When Love Comes* is a critically acclaimed film that presents the struggles of a traditional Taiwanese family in their efforts to cope with each other's flaws.

- Heather Keung



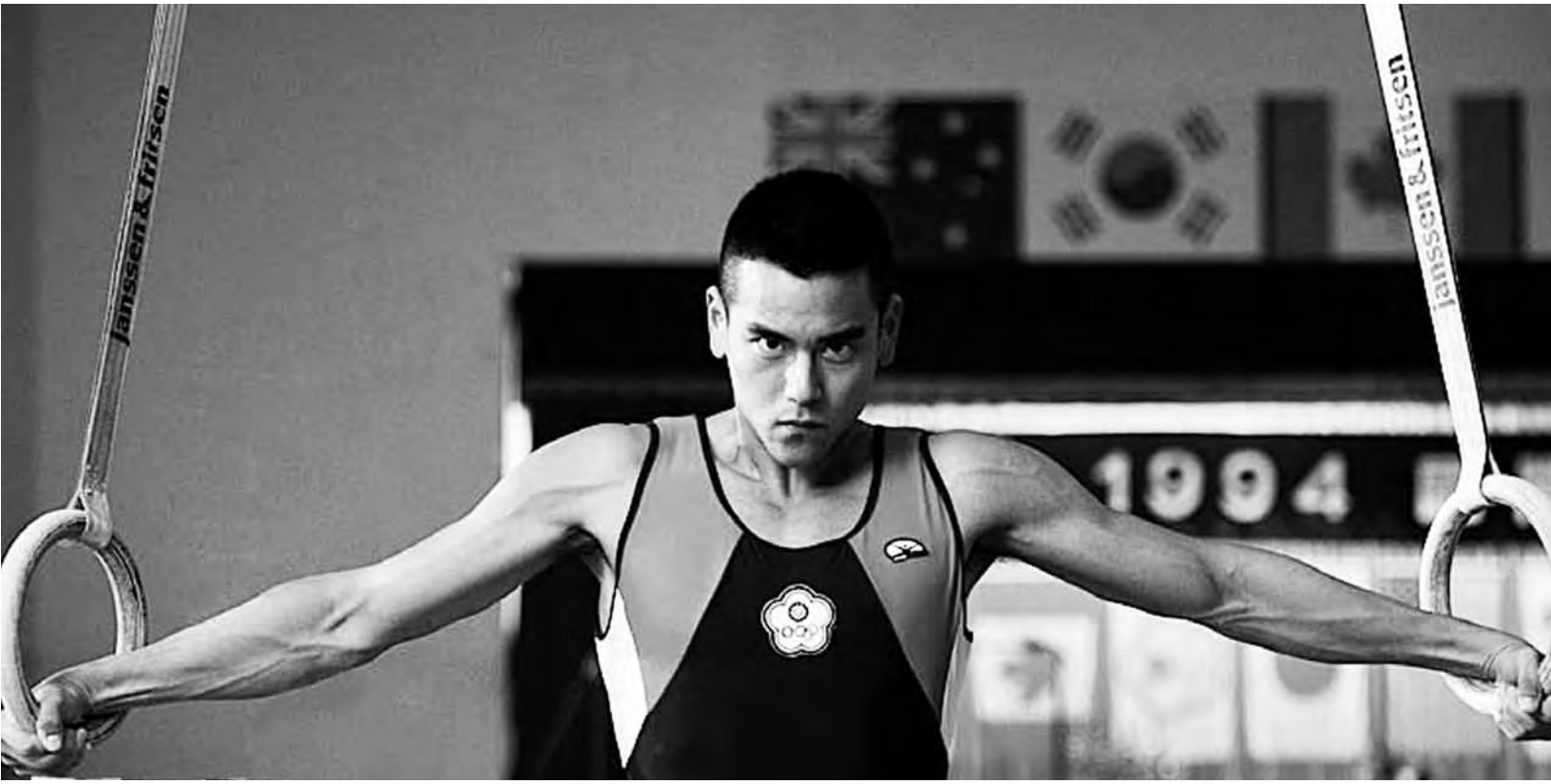
Chang Tso-chi *studied film and drama at the Chinese Culture University and worked as an assistant director for Hou Hsiao-hsien. In 1993, he founded his own production company in Taipei. His features* Ah Chung *(1996) and* Darkness and Light *(1999) were presented at the Toronto International Film Festival.*

Best Feature Film, Audience Choice, Best Cinematography, and Best Art Direction—Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival 2010
Best Narrative Feature, Best New Talent, Best Supporting Actress, and Best Screenplay—Taipei International Film Festival 2011

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JUMP ASHIN!
翻滾吧！阿信

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG
Dir. Lin Yu-hsien | Taiwan 2011 | 128:00 | 35mm | Hoklo/Mandarin w/Eng. sub.
Cast: Eddie Peng, Lawrence Ko, Hsia Ching-ting | Director in Attendance

From the director of the box office hit *Jump! Boys* (2005), Lin Yu-hsien, comes a genre-fusing motivational sports movie inspired by the life story of his gymnast brother. Starring Canadian pop idol Eddie Peng and Lawrence Ko, Lin's new movie is a drama with humour and action, with scenes reminiscent of the playful 1980s movies starring Jackie Chan.

Ashin is a young gymnast whose life has revolved around training since he was a boy growing up in the small town of Yilan. His mother doubts that his involvement in the sport will amount to anything, so she takes him off the team to allow him to focus on the family business. Disheartened, Ashin gives up gymnastics and starts to hang out with the wrong crowd. He and his best friend, Pickle, quickly become the most sought-after troublemakers in town as the former gymnast successfully uses his high-bar skills for gang fighting. However, things take a turn for the worse when Pickle becomes addicted to drugs; and when the two clash with the son of a local kingpin, they are forced to flee to Taipei.

When life in the big city turns tragic, Ashin returns home, determined to re-enter the world of gymnastics no matter what obstacles await him.

Jump Ashin! features an outstanding cast including Eddie Peng, who underwent 12 hours of training a day for three months to be able to show the intensity of a gymnast, and Lawrence Ko, whose fascinating portrayal of Ashin's best friend Pickle won him the Best Supporting Actor Award at the Taipei Film Festival this year.

- Heather Keung



***Lin Yu-hsien** has been working as a director, screenwriter, and editor in Taiwan for many years. His work delivers subtle observations and social reflections in a humourous and fast-paced style. In 2005, his first highly acclaimed documentary,* Jump! Boys*, won Best Documentary at the Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival. It remained in theatres for three months and broke box office records for that genre. Lin's feature films include* Exit No. 6 *and* Sumimasen, Love.

Audience Choice Award—Taipei Film Festival 2011

There will be an encore presentation of *Jump Ashin!* on November 19 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. See Page 63.

BIG DEAL KARAOKE WITH DJ RICHIE RICH

SAT NOV 12 | 10:00 PM
The Central | 603 Markham St (S of Bloor St W)
Free and open to the public

After the Centrepiece Presentation of *Jump Ashin!*, everybody will feel like kung-fu fighting–or at least singing *Kung Fu Fighting*. DJ Richie Rich hosts a free night of karaoke at The Central, in the heart of Toronto's Mirvish Village. Free food while it lasts and drinks at festival-friendly prices will ensure that everyone sounds better after a round or two.

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CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED 14A
Dir. Liu Jian | China 2009 | 75:00 | DigiBeta | Mandarin w/Eng. sub.
Producer: Lynne Wang

This remarkable debut by Chinese artist Liu Jian is a nightmarish, punk-style animation about corruption, discrimination, and disaffected youth in modern-day China. Set during the 2008 financial crisis, the story takes place in a sombre city where many factories have been forced to close their doors.

Zhang is one of many who loses his job despite having a college degree. One day, he is accused of stealing and gets beat up by a supermarket security guard. Zhang and his friend conspire to get compensation from the store's owner who happens to be one of the wealthiest businessmen in town.

A chain of events gets the two friends entangled in a complicated conspiracy between the store owner's competitors and the police. The battle over power and money culminates in a brilliant and unexpected showdown at a teahouse. Both serious and humourous, elegant and grotesque, Liu's social satire highlights the absurdities in the stereotypical Chinese villager's dream to move to a big city, find a good job, and fit into urban society.

Liu Jian's visually striking and expressive style is influenced by his background in gaudy and conceptual art. Gaudy art emerged in China in the 1990s as a response to contemporary kitsch and commercial manipulation of aesthetics. Gaudy artists are known for using vulgarity and ugliness to break apart artificial role models, pretentious classisms, and conformity in society. Also characterized as being sarcastic and skeptical of the superficial value system, gaudy art is ultimately a criticism of the cheapening of the human experience and the pursuit of happiness.

- Heather Keung



Liu Jian *majored in Chinese painting and graduated from Nanjing Art Institute in 1993. He is a representative artist of gaudy art and conceptual photography and his works have been presented in some of the most important exhibitions in China and abroad. In 1995, he began making animations. He established Le-joy Animation Studio in 2007.*

Best Animated Feature Film—Asia Pacific Screen Awards 2010
Best Feature Film—CINANIMA International Animated Film Festival, Portugal 2010
Best Feature Film—ReAnimania Yerevan International Animation Film Festival 2010

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ETERNITY
ชั่วฟ้าดินสลาย

Canadian Premiere | Rated PG
Dir. Sivaroj Kongsakul | Thailand 2010 | 105:00 | 35mm | Thai w/ Eng. sub.
Cast: Wanlop Rungkamjad, Namfon Udomletlak, Prapas Amnuay, Pattraporn Jaturanrasmee
Producers: Aditya Assarat, Soros Sukhum, Umpornpol Yugala

The thought-provoking feature debut from Sivaroj Kongsakul, *Eternity,* is a beautifully crafted drama about love, loss, and the memories that endure after death.

The film unfolds in three interwoven chapters of a tale. It begins with a man, alone on a motorcycle, travelling through the Thai countryside. Wit (Wanlop Rungkamjad) is a ghost on a quest to retrace the footsteps of his life. As Wit recalls his life, he reflects on falling in love with a young woman named Koi (Namfon Udomlertlak), his future wife. Koi, a teacher who is reluctant to move to the countryside, ultimately returns Wit's love and marries him. In time, Koi is a middle-aged widow, supporting her children after the death of her husband, as she searches for the strength to carry on.

As a tribute to his father who passed away when he was a child, Kongsakul has crafted a stunning drama. Inspired by the Thai belief that souls of the dead return to the place they once cherished in life, he tells a heartfelt tale of love and remembrance. Cinematographer Umpornpol Yugala, who also shot *Wonderful Town* (2008), contributes stunning scenes using expansive camerawork with rich detail. *Eternity* is an inspiring film that is motivated by deeply personal emotions, but also makes a poignant connection with any audience. It has won numerous awards, including the prestigious Tiger Award at the International Film Festival Rotterdam.

- Vicci Ho



Sivaroj Kongsakul *began his career as assistant to Pen-ek Ratanaruang, Wisit Sasanatieng, and Aditya Assarat. Since 2002 he has directed 10 short films that have played in festivals around the world.* Eternity *is his first feature.*

Tiger Award—International Film Festival Rotterdam 2011

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SURROGATE VALENTINE

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG
Dir. Dave Boyle | USA 2011 | 75:00 | HDcam | English | Writers: Dave Boyle, Joel Clark, Goh Nakamura
Cast: Goh Nakamura, Lynn Chen, Chadd Stoops | Cast in Attendance

Goh Nakamura makes his acting debut—playing himself—as a San Francisco musician in this sweet romantic comedy. Goh's life of solitude is disrupted when he is hired to teach TV actor Danny Turner (Chadd Stoops) how to play guitar for an upcoming film. Hell-bent on accurately portraying Goh's mellow vibe for his role, Danny meticulously studies Goh's every move. Together, the two embark on a hilarious West Coast adventure involving live gigs, groupies, shotgun-wielding record execs, and an unexpected friendship. Along the way, Goh discovers that Danny may be the missing puzzle piece in his lifelong chase for Rachel (Lynn Chen), the one who got away.

Director Dave Boyle's previous films, such as *White on Rice* starring Hiroshi Watanabe, have been written specifically with the lead actor in mind and have been based on his experiences meeting them. Dave first met Goh Nakamura in 2009 and instantly knew that Goh's music, quiet charisma, and effortless humour were unique. Soon Dave and Goh started trading stories via text message and Facebook chat about missed connections, awkward situations, and chasing dreams on the road.

Goh Nakamura is a San Francisco Bay Area-based musician who writes ditties about parking tickets, impossible crushes, and faraway dreamlands. With one foot in the traditional troubadour world and another in the digital age, he performs at venues—small, large, and virtual—to an enthusiastic and ever-growing fanbase from all over the world.

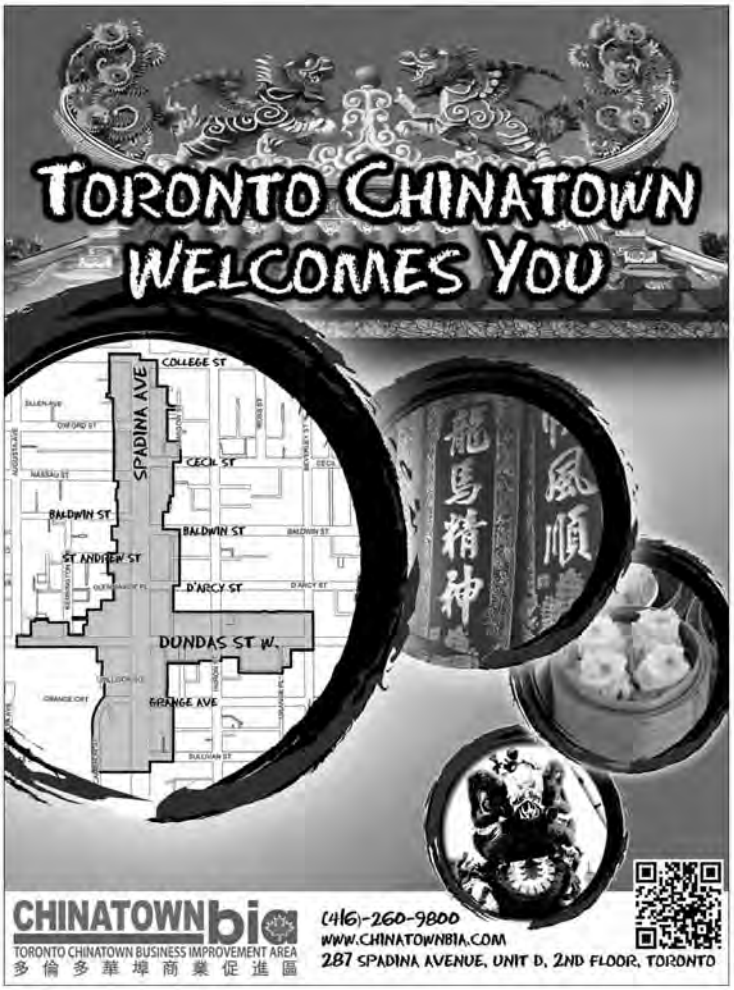
- Heather Keung



***Dave Boyle** made his feature film debut in 2006 with the bilingual comedy* Big Dreams Little Tokyo. *Boyle's second feature,* White on Rice*, a comedy about a lovestruck divorcé, played at Reel Asian in 2009.*

Goh Nakamura will be performing at Rancho Relaxo as part of LIVE SCORE ENCORE music night on November 11. See Page 35.

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PEARLS OF THE FAR EAST
NGỌC VIỄN ĐÔNG

WORLD PREMIERE | RATED 14A
Dir. Cuong Ngo | Canada/Vietnam 2011 | 103:00 | HDcam | Vietnamese w/Eng. sub.
Producer/Editor: Igor Szczurko | Producer/Production Designer: Tom Yarith Ker | Composers: Alexina Louie, Alex Pauk | Cast: Ngo Thanh Van, Truong Ngoc Anh, Nhu Quynh, Hong Anh, Kieu Chinh
Director & Cast in Attendance

Cuong Ngo's debut feature film weaves together the forbidden love stories of seven women over several generations. The spectacular beauty of Vietnam serves as the backdrop for the movie, which is set to a hauntingly beautiful musical score by composers Alexina Louie and Alex Pauk. The expressive moments of passion and desire are further enriched by a gorgeous cast of acclaimed talent from Canada, US, and Vietnam, including singer-actress Ngo Thanh Van (*The Clash*), who plays a young woman on a deserted island, tormented by her insatiable desires for the man she lives with.

Other members of the cast include Truong Ngoc Anh (*The White Silk Dress*), Nhu Quynh (*The Vertical Ray of the Sun*), Hong Anh (*Moon at the Bottom of the Well*), and legendary Vietnamese-American actress Kieu Chinh (*Journey From the Fall*).

Writer Minh Ngoc Nguyen, whose award-winning stories inspired the film, also makes an appearance as a glamorous fashion designer who reminisces about her most beloved wedding gowns.

Each narrative is based on a true story, and the film adaptation was influenced by the cultures, spiritual beliefs, and histories of the regions in which it was shot. Locations include the legendary Mekong Delta river that leads to Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand; the Dalat, a former French military station where ghostly myths abound; the Royal region Hoi An; the western-influenced Saigon; and the northern region of Hanoi and Sapa where Vietnam borders China. The final scene was shot in Toronto as a tribute to the Vietnamese diaspora living here.

- Heather Keung



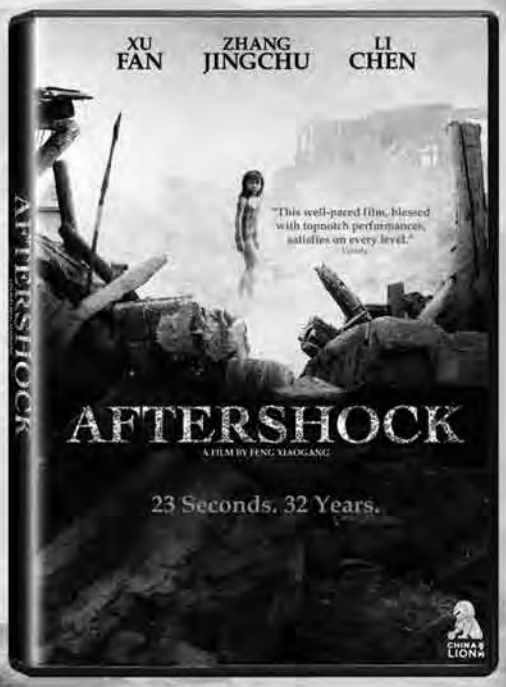
Cuong Ngo *was born in Saigon. He earned a BFA from the Cinema and Theatre University in Ho Chi Minh City before pursuing his second degree in film production from York University in Toronto. Cuong has directed several short films, documentaries, and videos, including* The Hitchhiker Project *(2008) and* The Golden Pin *(2009), which won Best Canadian Short at the Toronto Inside Out LGBT Film and Video Festival. He has toured over 40 international film festivals.*

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BUDDHA MOUNTAIN
觀音山

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 14A
Dir. Li Yu | China 2010 | 104:00 | 35mm | Mandarin w/ Eng. sub.
Cast: Sylvia Chang, Fan Bingbing, Chen Po Lin, Fei Long, Jin Jing, Fang Li, Bao Zhenjiang | Guest in Attendance

Following the devastating earthquake that hit Sichuan province in 2008, Li Yu's *Buddha Mountain* was the first film shot in Chengdu that reflected the impact of this catastrophic event. Building on her reputation as one of the most distinctive directors of her generation, Li chooses to focus on everyday life, rather than disaster, to illustrate the aftermath. As a result, she delivers a sharply observed drama about two generations in contemporary China facing unstoppable change.

Ding Bo (Chen Po Lin), a rebellious youth angry about his father's remarriage, spends most of his nights getting drunk with his best friends Nanfeng (Fan Bingbing) and Fatso (Fei Long). Working dead-end jobs after failing to get into college, they decide to move into an apartment with Madam Chang (Sylvia Chang), a retired Chinese Opera singer suffering from depression following the death of her son. Despite many clashes amongst them, a near-tragedy brings them together. As Chang advises them on family problems, insecurities, and heartbreak, they help her overcome her grief. Together, they travel to Buddha Mountain to rebuild a temple completely destroyed by the earthquake, as they also attempt to rebuild their own shattered lives.

Taiwanese actress Chang, who has been away from the big screen for four years, gives a deeply moving performance as a grieving mother consumed by anger she cannot release. Fang, whose award-winning performance is both bold and vulnerable, proves she is undoubtedly one of the brightest stars in China today.

Li is a master of capturing the complexities of human interaction in everyday life and skilful at building a deep connection between the audience and the film's characters. *Buddha Mountain* is a captivating journey that is equally haunting and hopeful.

- Vicci Ho



***Li Yu**, who began her career in documentaries, made her feature debut in 2001 with* Fish and Elephant*, while her second feature,* Dam Street *(2006), won at the Deauville Asian Film Festival. Her controversial (and banned) film* Lost In Beijing *(2007) competed at the Berlinale.* Buddha Mountain *is her fourth feature.*

Best Artistic Contribution and Best Actress—23rd Tokyo International Film Festival 2011
Best Picture—Casa Asia Film Festival 2011

The Closing Night Gala film will be preceded by Reel Asian's 2011 Festival Awards Ceremony.

CLOSING NIGHT GALA PARTY

SUN NOV 13 | 10:00 PM
Bar Italia | 582 College St (at Clinton)
$5 | Free with Closing Night Screening ticket stub

Following the awards presentation and closing night screening of *Buddha Mountain*, follow us a few steps down the street to our wrap-up party, where DJ Colin D will help us send off our 15th anniversary year in style.

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FEATURES JURY



KING-WEI CHU

is co-director of Asian and martial arts programming and photographer at the Fantasia Film Festival. He also directed *Flesh for Kung Fu* featuring Gordon Liu as part of the award-winning anthology Frankenstein Unlimited. He also programs for the Montreal Film Society and serves as a consultant for their archives. King grew up with Shaw Brothers cinema in Montreal and owns one of the largest Shaw collections in North America.



MASASHI NIWANO

is the Festival & Exhibitions Director for the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM), the largest non-profit organization dedicated to presenting stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian-American experiences. Masashi holds a Bachelor's degree in film production from San Francisco State University. Prior to re-joining CAAM, Masashi was the Executive Director for the Austin Asian American Film Festival. He is also an active filmmaker, who has worked on numerous films and music videos that are official selections at Cannes, Outfest, and SXSW.



RENATA MOHAMED

is a Toronto-based filmmaker and a graduate of the Integrated Media program at the Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD). Her first short film *Coolie Gyal* has screened at more than 50 festivals worldwide. Renata has worked with numerous arts organizations in Toronto and has served on juries for the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival and the Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film and Video Festival. She has worked as the Membership and Volunteer Coordinator for the Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT) since 2003.

CANADIAN AND SHORTS JURY



JANE KIM

was the recipient of the 2010 Reel Asian WIFT-T Award for her film *Seeing Through the Spider's Web*. She has made independent short works and also worked as a freelance festival programmer and curator with numerous Toronto-based festivals and arts organizations. Kim is currently a PhD candidate at York.



JONATHAN NG

is a Montreal-based animator. He directed his first film, *Asthma Tech,* at the National Film Board of Canada in 2006. He then worked in the live-action film industry as a pre-viz animator on features such as *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and *The Mummy 3.* He went on to co-produce and animate several breakdance films in a mini-series with Kid Koala, including *Floor Kids* and *Just Another Floor Kids Battle*. He won the Reel Asian *So You Think You Can Pitch?* competition in 2009 to produce his upcoming independent short film *Requiem for Romance*.



TAM-CA VO-VAN

is a curator and film programmer based in Ottawa and is currently the director of SAW Gallery, where she has curated many exhibitions, including International Geographic, Drawing Restraint and Moncton Rock. She is also a founder of the Electric Fields Electronic Music and Media Forum. She worked for many years as a programmer at the Festival international du cinéma francophone en Acadie and organized the On the Bend Gay and Lesbian Film Festival in Moncton. She currently serves as the chair of the Association des groupes en arts visuels francophones.

FESTIVAL AWARDS

REEL ASIAN AUDIENCE AWARD
All feature films are eligible for this prize
$2,000 cash prize

FASKEN MARTINEAU BEST FEATURE FILM OR VIDEO AWARD
All feature films are eligible for this prize
$2,000 cash prize

NATIONAL BANK BEST FIRST FEATURE FILM AWARD
All first feature films are eligible for this prize
$500 cash prize

ANIMASIAN AWARD
All animated films and videos are eligible for this prize
$500 cash prize

MOVIEOLA BEST SHORT FILM OR VIDEO AWARD
All short films and videos are eligble for this prize
$500 cash prize
Opportunity for broadcast on Movieola

NFB BEST CANADIAN FILM OR VIDEO AWARD
All Canadian works are eligible for this prize
$1,500 cash prize

WIFT-T AWARD
All films made by female GTA-based artists are eligible for this prize
$1,200 programming pass, one-year membership and mentorship from WIFT-T
$1,000 in equipment rental from Videoscope, and 15% off rentals for one full year

CLOSING NIGHT GALA AND AWARDS CEREMONY
The 2011 Festival Awards will be presented preceding the Closing Night Gala on Nov 13. See Page 55 for details.



2010 So You Think You Can Pitch? Finalists

PITCH JURORS



NOBU ADILMAN

is a Toronto-based artist working in television, film, music, journalism, podcasting, and web interactive. He got his start as a writer for network television (*Emily of New Moon*, *Cold Squad*) and continued to act (*Trailer Park Boys, Parsley Days*) and host television shows (*Smart Ask!, ZeD, Food Jammers, Invention Nation*). In 2010 he directed an interactive web documentary with the NFB entitled *Crash Course: Creative Lessons in Surviving an Economic Tsunami*, and also produced and directed a short documentary film to celebrate the opening of TIFF Bell Lightbox, titled *Starting Over: The Legacy of Leslie and Clara Reitman*. Adilman most recently founded choir! choir! choir!



EILEEN ARANDIGA

is the Festival Director of the Worldwide Short Film Festival in Toronto, a festival with which she has been associated for over nine years in various capacities. Arandiga has previously worked for the Toronto International Film Festival in the area of industry programming and services, and with various arts organizations in Australia. She has also run filmmaking workshops for young women in Toronto, sat on festival juries, and programmed shorts for Signals Festival in the UK, NEXT Short Film Festival in Romania, and the Australian Canadian Film Festival in Sydney, Australia. Arandiga sits on the Board of ImagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.



LILA KARIM

has over 15 years experience in arts administration, event management, and film development. Karim is currently the Managing Director of Arts North York with the Toronto Arts Foundation and the Festival Director of the Toronto Irish Film Festival. She has previously worked for the Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, ReelWorld Film Festival, and Astral's Harold Greenberg Fund. Karim is active within the arts community as a juror and is also an accomplished photographer and filmmaker.

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH? AWARDS

EMERGING ARTIST AWARD

This award comprises:

- A production package from Charles Street Video worth $3,000 ($10,000 at industry rental rates) including:
  - o One-year membership with Charles Street Video
  - o Two sessions with Charles Street Video's in-house editor
  - o A production workflow consultation, which includes:
    - $1,000 in edit suite access
    - $400 in production equipment rentals
    - $300 materials credit
- Distribution option through Ouat Media, with broadcast on Movieola
- Two hours of of business and legal services consultation provided by Behind the Scenes Services
- $2,000 cash
- Opportunity to screen work at the 2012 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival with full festival accreditation

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST AWARD

This award comprises:

- A production package from Charles Street Video worth $5,000 ($18,000 at industry rental rates) including:
  - o One-year membership with Charles Street Video
  - o Two sessions with Charles Street Video's in-house editor
  - o A production workflow consultation, which includes:
    - $2,000 in edit suite access
    - $700 in production equipment rentals
    - $300 materials credit
- Distribution option through Ouat Media, with broadcast on Movieola
- Two hours of business and legal services consultation provided by Behind the Scenes Services
- $2,000 cash
- Opportunity to screen work at the 2012 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival with full festival accreditation

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BEHIND THE SCENES SERVICES

Winners will be announced at the Industry Series Reception on Sunday, November 13. See Page 59 for details.



THE SIXTH ANNUAL INDUSTRY SERIES

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Your Industry Series pass provides you with access to every session, exclusive access to the guest services lounge, and excellent networking opportunities. Plus, you can use your pass to redeem up to four complimentary tickets at any regular screenings!

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For more information on the individual sessions and bios of speakers, please visit reelasian.com to download our industry series guide.

All Industry Series sessions are for Badgeholders and Passholders only unless otherwise noted.

Pre-Registration: To sign up for the sessions that require pre-registration, please contact industry@reelasian.com.

Festival Bootcamp
WED NOV 9 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM | Pre-registration required

Shape up and learn how to make the most of your festival experience from an industry insider. You'll learn the tricks of the trade to pull off big picture necessities like strategic planning, marketing, and distribution, but also get a glimpse at the oft-overlooked details that separate the Pros from the Joes. Now drop and give me 20!

With: **Jennifer Chen**, Director of Programming & Acquisitions, Channel Zero

Crowded House: Crowd-funding Case Studies
WED NOV 9 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Have a project that doesn't fit traditional funding models? Looking to engage a broad community of like-minded folk? Hear first-hand experiences with the growing trend of crowd-funded projects from filmmakers who have launched successful campaigns, both big and small. We'll also discuss the broader implications of the phenomenon: is this the future of fundraising or will it get too crowded?

Moderated by: **Randall Okita**, Absitomen Media
With: **Tiffany Hsiung**, Director, *Within Every Woman*
Shasha Nakhai & Rich Williamson, Directors, *Sugar Bowl*

LIKE! This Panel–Social Media Strategy for Filmmakers
WED NOV 9 | 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

A case study seminar on how to best utilize tweets, #tags, +pluses, pages, groups, likes, and more for your film as you build the successful social media strategy that's required in today's climate. Featuring campaign examples from filmmakers as well as a current social media campaign from one of Reel Asian's 2011 festival films.

Moderated by: **Jon Bunning**, Social Media & Client Community Manager, thirdocean
With: **Anthea Foyer**, The Labs
Sol Friedman, Director, *Junko's Shamisen*

For the Love of Discourse! Artist Talk with Derek Tsang
THU NOV 10 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | FREE. Open to the Public

No stranger to show business, Derek Tsang Kwok Cheung is a rising star in Hong Kong from famous lineage, and now a feature film director. Join us for an intimate talk with the director of *Lover's Discourse* as he talks about the process of creating the film as well as the transition to the director's chair for his first feature.

With: **Derek Tsang Kwok Cheung**, Director, *Lover's Discourse*

Reel Asian Speed Dating
THU NOV 10 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Pre-registration required

You feel the need for speed? Here's your chance to gain valuable insight and make an effective impression in 1-on-1 sitdowns with industry veterans. Who knows, maybe you'll find that special someone?

Mentors:
Kristine Estorinos, Manager, Festival Services and Domestic Sales, Ouat Media
Linda Fong, Independent Production Officer, TVO
Cheryl Geonanga, Art Director, Taxi 2
Judy Gladstone, Executive Director, BravoFACT!
Vicci Ho, International Programming Consultant, Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival
Anita Lee, Producer, National Film Board of Canada
Paritosh Mehta, Director of Independent Production Development, Rogers Media
Alex Rogalski, Short Cuts Canada Programmer, Toronto International Film Festival

Reel Asian Meet Market
THU NOV 10 | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Pre-registration required

Know the perfect DOP for somebody? Maybe they have an editor they're dying to introduce you to. And we all know a good actor is hard to find. The Meet Market is your chance to hook up with all your creative friends of friends of friends, so bring your "+1s", expand your network and get your drink on!






It's Not Personal, It's Business

FRI NOV 11 | Master Class 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Part Two 2:00 PM - 3:00PM | Pre-registration required for Master Class

Creativity isn't limited to your film; it also lies in your strategic business planning. From inception to production to distribution, you need proactive business and legal professionals involved to avoid potential pitfalls. A must-attend session for emerging producers who want their films to achieve maximum financial success! Preceded by a hands-on Master Class for experienced producers. Get an intensive assessment of your business plan with our expert business team.

Moderated by **Karla Bobadilla**, Lewis Birnberg Hanet, LLP (and Chair, Board of Directors, Reel Asian)
With: **Eric Birnberg**, LL.B., Co-Founder, Behind the Scenes Services
Thomas Walden, C.A., Co-Founder, Behind the Scenes Services

Not All Candy: Complicated and Determined Youth in Taiwanese Independent Cinema

FRI NOV 11 | 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Munk School of Global Affairs RM 208 | FREE. Open to the Public
Join the Asian Institute to discuss the current state of Taiwanese cinema with Lin Yu-hsien, director of this year's Centrepiece Presentation *Jump Ashin!* Followed by a catered reception.

Moderated by: **Bart Testa**, Cinema Studies Institute, University of Toronto
With: **Lin Yu-hsien**, Director, *Jump Ashin!*
Additional guests TBA

Scriptwriting: What Not to Write

SAT NOV 12 | Part One 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Master Class 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Pre-registration required for Master Class

This workshop is a two-part affair, featuring story editor Elke Town. The first part is an examination of the elements that go into the making of a successful feature film: structure, character, tone, theme, dialogue, pacing, and much more. The second part will be run as a Master Class in which two teams (or writers) will work one-on-one with Elke to develop an existing or new project into a feature film.

With: **Elke Town**, Story Editor, *Storyworks*

A Visit from the NSI

SAT NOV 12 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Renowned for having given many emerging filmmakers their first breaks, the National Screen Institute provides training and production support to filmmakers through programs like the NSI Drama Prize, Features First, and Totally Television. The NSI also offers national exposure through the NSI Online Short Film Festival, and provides vast resources and support to those in the film, television, and new media industry. Make sure you come to this intimate session for an exclusive opportunity to talk to our experts from NSI!

With: **Melissa Kajpust**, Director of Programming, NSI

Whither Asian North American Media?

SAT NOV 12 | 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM | FREE. Open to the Public

On Reel Asian's 15th Anniversary, we take the opportunity to ask ourselves, "Where are we going?" What is the future of Asian North American media in the current global context and the ascension of Asia? And where can Asian Canadian filmmakers position themselves within this evolving trajectory? Expert panelists weigh in to share their perspectives on our future. A must-see event. It might get existential!

Moderator by: **Anita Lee**, Producer, National Film Board of Canada, Co-founder of Reel Asian
With: **Karen Chien**, Producer, dGenerate Films
Michael Fukushima, Producer, National Film Board of Canada
Masashi Niwano, Festival & Exhibitions Director, San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival

Artist Talk: Lost Secrets of the Royal

SAT NOV 12 | 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM | FREE. Open to the Public
Artist talk with Daïchi Saïto, Cindy Mochizuki, Louise Noguchi, soJin Chun. See Page 19.

So You Think You Can Pitch? Live Finale

SUN NOV 13 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM | The Royal
FREE. Open to the Public

The proverbial blood, sweat, and tears will be on display at the sixth annual *So You Think You Can Pitch?* competition Live Finale. We'll see finalists battle it out for pitch supremacy in front of a live audience. May the best pitch win! Winners will be announced at the Industry Series Reception immediately following. (Note: actual blood is not likely!)

NSI Industry Series Reception

SUN NOV 13 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Join us as we wrap up the 2011 Industry Series by announcing the winners of this year's *So You Think You Can Pitch?* competition. Get to know the pitch finalists while mingling with your fellow festival friends, delegates, and industry professionals, and celebrate! Hosted by the National Screen Institute.



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RICHMOND HILL CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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Screening Venue

★ Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
10268 Yonge St

BUYING SINGLE TICKETS FOR RICHMOND HILL

- Online sales for single shows begin at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, Oct 11 through reelasian.com (powered by TicketWeb) and/or through rhcentre.ca; online sales end at 11:55 PM the day before the show. Please note that tickets purchased online through TicketWeb will be available for pick-up only at the Reel Asian Box Office in the lobby of the RHCPA after 5:00 PM on Friday, Nov 18. Tickets purchased online through rhcentre.ca are available for pickup at the RHCPA Box Office 24 hours after purchase.
- Walk-up sales begin at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, Oct 12 through the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts (RHCPA) Box Office (open Mondays through Saturdays 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM)–last day for walk-up advance sales in Richmond Hill is Thursday, Nov 17. No walk-up sales for single tickets available at T.O. Tix.
- During the Richmond Hill Festival (Nov 18-19), tickets for all shows may be purchased from the Reel Asian Box Office in the lobby of the RHCPA: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM on Friday, Nov 18 and 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM on Saturday, Nov 19.

BUYING SCREENING 4-PAKS FOR RICHMOND HILL

- Online sales for Screening 4-Paks available through reelasian.com (powered by TicketWeb) from 10:00 AM on Tuesday, Oct 11 until 11:55 PM on Monday, Nov 7. Screening 4-Paks purchased online through TicketWeb will be available for pick-up only at the Reel Asian Box Office in the lobby of the RHCPA after 5:00 PM on Friday, Nov 18.
- Online sales for Screening 4-Paks also available through rhcentre.ca from 10:00 AM on Tuesday, Oct 11 until 11:55 PM on Thursday, Nov 17. Screening 4-Paks purchased online through rhcentre.ca will be available for pickup at the RHCPA Box Office 24 hours after purchase.
- Walk-up sales available in Toronto: Oct 11 - Nov 5 through T.O. Tix located at Yonge Dundas Square (open Tuesdays through Saturdays 12:00 PM - 6:30 PM). See Page 3.
- Walk-up sales available in Richmond Hill: Oct 11 - Nov 17 through the RHCPA Box Office.

Tickets and 4-Paks

	Regular Price	Discount Price *
Regular Screenings	$12	$10
4-Pak (in advance only)	$36	$30

*Discount applies to students (with valid current ID), seniors over 65 (no ID required), or volume sales (more than 10 tickets to any one show) All ticket and pass item sales are final–no refunds or exchanges. Admission to all events is subject to availability. Festival passes will be accepted in Richmond Hill. For pass items, please see the back of the pass for additional terms & conditions specific to their use.





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OVERHEARD 2
竊聽風雲2

Canadian Premiere | Rated 14A
Dirs. Alan Mak & Felix Chong | Hong Kong 2011 | 119:00 | 35mm | Cantonese w/ Eng. sub.
Producer: Derek Yee | Cast: Lau Ching Wan, Louis Koo, Daniel Wu

After their wildly successful film *Overheard*, which opened the Reel Asian Film Festival in 2009, directors Alan Mak and Felix Chong have returned, alongside actors Lau Ching Wan, Louis Koo and Daniel Wu. Their latest offering, *Overheard 2*, is a thrilling new suspense story about greed and redemption.

Manson Law (Lau), a highly successful stockbroker, is involved in a car accident after realizing someone is following him. Jack Ho (Koo), the lead investigator on the case, discovers that a mysterious man named Joe (Wu) has been watching Law. As more details emerge about the case, the duo draws the attention of the Landlord Club, a powerful group of outlaw brokers led by the elusive Tony (Kenneth Tsang). As Law and Ho hunt Joe and gather information on his ties to the Club, an intricate cat-and-mouse game develops that threatens to bring all of their lives crashing together in a frantic crescendo.

Set in the money-crazed culture of Hong Kong, *Overheard 2* is a brilliantly executed thriller with three of the top actors in Hong Kong. Lau, Koo, and Wu all give strong performances as characters trying to overcome the burdens of the past to do the right thing. Under the measured direction of Mak and Chong, the plot's many twists and turns are accompanied by breathtaking action sequences. *Overheard 2* is a classic Hong Kong action thriller that will keep you guessing until the end.

- Vicci Ho





*Creative duo **Alan Mak** and **Felix Chong** have worked together on many projects, including the* Infernal Affairs *trilogy and* Initial D. *They recently co-directed* Overheard *and* The Lost Bladesman.



RICHMOND HILL OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

FRI NOV 18 | 9:00 PM
Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
10268 Yonge St
Free for patrons of our Richmond Hill Opening Night Screening

After our Richmond Hill Opening Night film, *Overheard 2*, join us in the lobby of the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts for a reception featuring complimentary hors d'oeuvres and Chinese tea.

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SAT NOV 19 | 1:30 PM

SAIGON ELECTRIC
SÀI GÒN YO

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED G
Dir. Stephane Gauger | USA/Vietnam 2011 | 98:00 | 35mm
Vietamese w/Eng. sub. | Cast: Van Trang, Quynh Hoa, Zen 04, Khuong Ngoc

Hip hop dancers from the tough streets of Saigon befriend a ribbon dancer from the countryside. Together, they must dance for their lives to save the only home they know. (See Page 35 for full film synopsis.)



SAT NOV 19 | 7:00 PM

JUMP ASHIN!
翻滾吧！阿信

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG
Dir. Lin Yu-hsien | Taiwan 2011 | 128:00 | 35mm
Hoklo/Mandarin w/Eng. sub. | Cast: Eddie Peng, Lawrence Ko, Hsia Ching-ting

Inspired by a true story, *Jump Ashin!* follows the adventures and mishaps of a young man determined to be a world-class gymnast. Winner of the 2011 Taipei Film Festival Audience Award. (see Page 45 for full film synopsis.)



SAT NOV 19 | 4:00 PM

BLEAK NIGHT
파수꾼

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG
Dir. Yoon Sung-Hyun | South Korea 2010 | 116:00 | HDcam
Korean w/Eng. sub. | Cast: Lee Je-Hoon, Seo Jun-Young, Park Jung-Min

The sudden death of a high school student reveals the complex and competitive power dynamics among teenage boys in this psychological drama from South Korea. (See Page 41 for full film synopsis.)

Preceded By

A DRUMMER'S PASSION

Dir. Mingu Kim | Canada 2011 | 12:00 | English/Korean w/Eng. sub.
Director in Attendance

A 70-year-old South Korean legend, Kwon Soon Keun, is an explosive drummer famous for his wild and extraordinary show-stealing showmanship.



RICHMOND HILL CLOSING NIGHT RECEPTION

SAT NOV 19 | 9:00 PM
Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
10268 Yonge St
Free for patrons of our Richmond Hill Closing Night Screening

Celebrate Reel Asian's inaugural festival weekend in Richmond Hill with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and Chinese tea, served in the lobby of the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.

BEAUTY QUEEN (P.25)
Lena Hayoung Chunx
lenac511@gmail.com

BIRTHDAY (P.17)
Jennifer Suhr
jennifer.suhr@gmail.com

BLEAK NIGHT (P.41)
Wonsun Shin, CJ Entertainment
wsshin@cj.net
+02 371 6243
cjenm.com

BUDDHA MOUNTAIN (P.55)
Shirley Huang, Laurel Films
shirleyhuang@laurel-films.com
+81 90 6521 3401

CANOPY CROSSINGS (P.17)
Gary Yong, Fluidrace Films
reachme@garyyong.com

DRUMMER'S PASSION, A (P.23)
Mingu Kim, Acoustic Soul Productions Inc.
mingukim80@gmail.com

ETERNITY (P.49)
Pictures Co. Ltd.
assarat@yahoo.com
bbunghim@yahoo.com
+6689 894 1660
pop-pictures-ltd.com

FARAWAY (P.17)
Janice Lee
janice.sy.lee@gmail.com

FORTUNE TELLER (P.31)
Dan Chen, DGenerate Films
dan@dgeneratefilms.com
646 360 0343
dgeneratefilms.com

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST: THE SACRED STAR OF MILOS (P.37)
Jackie Smith, Funimation Entertainment
jackie.smith@funimation.com
972 355 7300 x4843
funimation.com

GRANDPA'S WET DREAM (P.23)
Chihiro Amemiya
connect@chihiroamemiya.net

GRANNY'S ROCK (P.23)
Yoko Yamamoto, CaRTe bLaNChe
hello@c-a-r-t-e-blanche.com
c-a-r-t-e-blanche.com

HAND SOAP (P.25)
Yoko Yamamoto, CaRTe bLaNChe
hello@c-a-r-t-e-blanche.com
c-a-r-t-e-blanche.com

HANG IN THERE (P.25)
Larissa Fan, CFMDC
bookings@cfmdc.org
416 588 0725
cfmdc.org

IN A PIG'S EYE (P.25)
Tamaki Okamoto, CaRTe bLaNChe
tmk@c-a-r-t-e-blanche.com
c-a-r-t-e-blanche.com

INSERT CREDIT (P.33)
David Nguyen
pens_and_coffee@hotmail.com

JOURNALS OF MUSAN, THE (P.39)
Yura Kwon, Finecut Co., Ltd.
yura@finecut.co.kr | oya@finecut.co.kr
+822 569 8777
finecut.co.kr

JUMP ASHIN! (P.45)
Enga Chang, Central Pictures Corporation
Enga_Chang@movie.com.tw
+886 2 2778 1058 x613
movie.com.tw

LEFT-BEHIND WOMAN (P.33)
Jeremy Rivard, Window to the World
jeremy.rivard@gmail.com

LIBANGBANG (FLYING FISH) (P.25)
Chia Chi Tseng
tseng.tsengchi.chiachi426@gmail.com

LILY ENG TITLES (P.29)
Crash Points
Dance of Terror
DP
Documenta VI Joseph Beuys Free International
Drive
Hitting it Sideways
Penetrated (Female & Male)
Spreading the Space Thinly
University Improvisations
Walking
Withheld
Lily Eng
bdynamics@gmail.com

LOVER'S DISCOURSE (P.15)
Alex Luk, Distribution Workshop
alex@distributionworkshop.com
+852 2712 8200
distributionworkshop.com

MUYBRIDGE STRINGS (LES CORDES DE MUYBRIDGE) (P.33)
Élise Labbé, National Film Board of Canada
festivals@nfb.ca
514 283 9133
nfb.ca

NEVER A FOOT TOO FAR, EVEN (P.18)
Daïchi Saïto
daichi_saito@yahoo.com

NIGHT MARKET HERO (P.13)
Gisele Yeh, Green Film Production
nmhero@greenfilm.com
+886 2 27590118

NO CONTRACT (P.33)
Randall Lloyd Okita
rokita@absitomenmedia.com

OFFICER TUBA MEETS THE HAPPY GHOST (P.19)
soJin Chun
sojinchun.com

OVERHEARD 2 (P.62)
Alex Luk, Distribution Workshop
alex@distributionworkshop.com
+852 2712 8200
distributionworkshop.com

PAPER WINGS (P.17)
Vincent Toi
v.wongchungtoi@gmail.com

PAPER WORLD (P.25)
Wanda Vanderstoop, Vtape
wandav@vtape.org
416 351 1317
vtape.org

PEARLS OF THE FAR EAST (P.53)
Matt Guerin, Oriental Pearls Production Inc.
orientalpearlsmovie@gmail.com
416 846 2171
orientalpearlsmovie.com

PIERCING 1 (P.47)
Liu Jian, Le-joy Animation
le-joy@sohu.com
+86 84381759
le-joy.net/index_01.asp

PLANET Z (P.25)
Celia La Roux, Sacrebleu Productions
distribution@sacrebleuprod.com
+33 0 1 42 25 30 27
sacrebleuprod.com

PLANTS OUT OF THE SUNLIGHT (P.33)
Vu Van Franco Nguyen
FrancoNguyen@live.ca

RECOMBINATION (P.25)
Bum Lee
bumbarian@gmail.com

RESIDENT ALIENS (P.27)
Ross Tuttle
rosstuttle@gmail.com

SAIGON ELECTRIC (P.35)
Stephane Gauger, Saigon Electric LLC
stephgauger1@gmail.com
+323 868 4041
saigonelectric.com

SEARCHING FOR WONDER (P.17)
Tricia Lee, A Film Monkey Production
tricia@filmmonkey.ca
filmmonkey.ca

SKETCHI (P.25)
Lily Sun
sketchi@gmail.com

SNAKE'S SHADOW (P.19)
Louise Noguchi
louisenoguchi.com

SUGAR BOWL (P.23)
Shasha Nakhai, Squire Entertainment
sfnakhai@gmail.com
squireentertainment.com/

SUMMER PASTURE (P.21)
Aida LiPera, Visit Films
al@visitfilms.com
718 312 8210
visitfilms.com/index.asp

SUNDAY MENU (P.17)
Cristina Marx, University of Film and Television
(HFF) "Konrad Wolf"
distribution@hff-potsdam.de

SURROGATE VALENTINE (P.51)
David Boyle, Tiger Industry Films
beagledorp@yahoo.com
520 465 4142
surrogatevalentine.com

TATAMP (P.25)
Yoko Yamamoto, CaRTe bLaNChe
hello@c-a-r-t-e-blanche.com
c-a-r-t-e-blanche.com

TOP SPIN (P.27)
Mina T. Son
topspinmovie@gmail.com

TOTTE MITSU, LET'S GO TO RUSSIA (P.23)
Brian Lye
brianlye.sfs@gmail.com

WHAT REMAINS (P.25)
Stefanie Wong
stefanielwong@gmail.com

WHEN LOVE COMES (P.43)
Chang Tso Chi, Chang Tso Chi Film Studio
changtsochi@gmail.com
+886 2 86635179

WINTER SONG, A (P.33)
Anh Nguyen, GreenGround Productions
anh@greenground.ca
514 519 2765
greengroundproductions.com

YOKAI & OTHER SPIRITS (P.18)
Cindy Mochizuki
cindymochizuki.com

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