###

REEL ASIAN'S INDUSTRY SERIES
OFFERS A MEETING OF MINDS FOR FILMMAKERS AND PRODUCERS

Toronto, October 8, 2014 – The ninth edition of the Industry Series (November 6-16) at the 18th Annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival (Reel Asian) is the premier training and networking destination for Asian Canadian filmmakers and producers in Canada. The Industry Series is generously supported by Industry Series Lead Sponsor The Harold Greenberg Fund.

This year, Reel Asian's Industry Series brings the focus back to Ideas – as we feature compelling artist talks, debates with exciting up-and-coming filmmakers and industry veterans, and look to what the future holds for entrepreneurial and micro-budget content makers. Meet the breakout filmmakers behind The National Film Society's *Awesome Asian Bad Guys*, **Stephen Dypiangco** and **Patrick Epino**, as they chat candidly about the success of their crowd-funded web series turned featurette. Then, world-class musician and composer **Gingger Shankar** *(Monsoon Shootout, Himalaya Song, Passion of the Christ)* stops by to give a master class in composing music for film. Don't forget to check out prolific Taiwanese-aboriginal actor and new director, **Umin Boya** (*KANO, Warriors of the Rainbow)*, as he gives a home-run talk about the power of cinema and sports in bridging cultural differences.

The Industry Series offers free public access to select sessions and networking events, while featuring exclusive panels for pass-holders and members. This year, a grand total of 14 events hosted by industry professionals offer many opportunities for filmmakers and producers at all levels to become inspired at panels, to advance their current and future projects, and to expand their professional network.

The Industry Series crescendos with Reel Asian's annual Pitch competition—the Live Finale for the *So You Think You Can Pitch?* competition, which features prizes worth more than $35,000 supported by National Bank, Charles Street Video, ACTRA, and Behind the Scenes Services. This highly anticipated event comes for the first time to the George Ignatieff Theatre where finalists must pitch their film in front of a public audience and jury including **Michael Fukushima** (Executive Producer, National Film Board of Canada), **Jennifer Chen** (VP Programming, Channel Zero) and **Stephen Gong** (Executive Director, Center for Asian American Media).

401 Richmond St W | Toronto, ON M5V 3A8 | T 416.703.9333 | F 416.703.9986 | info@reelasian.com | www.reelasian.com
Charitable # 870021383RR0001

REEL ASIAN INDUSTRY SERIES 2014 SCHEDULE (NOVEMBER 6-16)

Industry Series sessions take place at:
Bar Italia (582 College Street)
AGO Weston Family Learning Centre (317 Dundas Street West)
* Indicates FREE event for the public

FRI NOV 7

FRONTLINE REPORT: DIVERSITY AND CANADIAN MEDIA
Bar Italia, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
With U.S. TV networks embracing diverse casting and stories, Canadian film and television professionals come together to debate the current state of diversity and obstacles in our industry.
Moderator: **Grace Lynn Kung** (Actor)
Panelists: **Sedina Fiati**, Performer/Artist, ACTRA Diversity Committee Co-Chair; **Nicole Mendes**, CBC Executive in Charge of Production – Drama, Additional Guests TBD

NATIONAL FILM SOCIETY: AWESOME ASIAN BAD GUYS
Bar Italia, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Filmmakers Patrick Epino and Stephen Dypiangco discuss crowdfunding, and the importance of brand and audience building to the success of their web-series turned feature. Actor Aaron Takahashi brings the conversation home as he touches on the challenges of Asian representation on screen.
Moderator: **Richard Young** (Actor)
Panelists: **Patrick Epino** (Filmmaker), **Stephen Dypiangco** (Filmmaker), **Aaron Takahashi** (Actor)

***INDUSTRY SERIES HAPPY HOUR WITH AWESOME ASIAN BAD GUYS**
Bar Italia, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Reel Asian's premiere networking event returns with guest filmmakers and actors, Stephen Dypiangco, Patrick Epino, and Aaron Takahashi in attendance.

SAT NOV 8

PITCHERS DUEL: WRITERS VS. PRODUCERS VS. FUNDERS
Bar Italia, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
From opposing perspectives, industry professionals face off on how to really pitch that perfect project, and what producers and funders are looking for when filmmakers come knocking on their door.
Panelists: **Nathalie Younglai** (Director, Producer, Writer), **Michael Fukushima** (Producer, English program, Animation), **Anita Lee** (Executive Producer, National Film Board Ontario), **Sidney Chiu** (Producer, SC Productions), Additional Guests TBD

***INDUSTRY SERIES HAPPY HOUR**
Bar Italia, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Reel Asian's premiere networking event returns with guest writers, producers, and funders in attendance.

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SUN NOV 9

***SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH?* Live Finale**
George Ignatieff Theatre, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Join the action and glory as pre-selected finalists pitch their short film project in just six minutes to a jury and live audience. Winners to be announced at Reel Asian Awards Reception, which follows the Live Finale.
New Pitch Jury 2014:
Michael Fukushima (Executive Producer, National Film Board of Canada)
Jennifer Chen (VP Programming, Channel Zero)
Stephen Gong (Executive Director, Center For Asian American Media)
Hosted by **Keith Cole**, Performer and Filmmaker

Winners of *So You Think You Can Pitch?* competition Live Finale and Reel Asian's juried awards to be announced at the Awards Reception on Sun Nov 9.

MON NOV 10

***ARTIST TALK WITH DIRECTOR UMIN BOYA (KANO)**
AGO Weston Family Learning Centre, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Taiwanese-aboriginal director, Umin Boya, discusses his feature-film debut, *KANO*, the true story of how baseball and sportsmanship brought together disparate racial groups in 1930s Japanese-occupied Taiwan. An in-depth talk about identity, class, and the power of cinema to promote racial harmony.
Panelist: **Umin Boya** (Actor/Director)

***MEMORIES MATTER: ARTIST TALK WITH JACQUELINE HOANG NGUYEN**
AGO Weston Family Learning Centre, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
This year's Canadian spotlight artist, Jacqueline Hoang Nguyen, explores the notion of memory and everyday immigrant life, as captured by amateur photographers and archived online with her project, "The Making of an Archive." This talk will be in conversation with Stephen Gong, film historian and Executive Director of the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM), who explores the documentation of Asian-American family histories, through his archiving and digitizing initiative, *Memories to Light.*
Moderator: **Stephen Gong** (Film Historian, Executive Director, Center for Asian American Media)
Panelist: **Jacqueline Hoang Nguyen** (Artist)

TUES NOV 11

MICRO-BUDGET TO BIG BUDGET FINANCING
AGO Weston Family Learning Centre, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
This session covers the different avenues of funding available to today's independent filmmakers, including crowdfunding, working with micro budgets, as well as how to access multi-million dollar financing.
Moderator: **Austin Wong**, Director, Business and Legal Affairs, DHX Media

BEHIND THE SCENES: CASE STUDY
AGO Weston Family Learning Centre, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
The top entertainment lawyers from *Behind the Scenes Services* deliver an insightful production case study and advice on legal pitfalls for filmmakers to avoid.

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WEDS NOV 12

THE MUSIC OF GINGGER SHANKAR (HIMALAYA SONG)
AGO Weston Family Learning Centre, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Musician and film composer, Gingger Shankar, has performed with everyone from Peter Gabriel, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Smashing Pumpkins to Katy Perry, and collaborated with top film composers, such as Trent Reznor and James Newton Howard. Hear Gingger speak about composing music for film, which includes her work on "The Passion of the Christ," "Monsoon Shootout," "Powerless" and "Himalaya Song."
Moderator: **Arthur Yeung**, (Producer, Musician, Journalist)
Panelist: **Gingger Shankar** (Musician, Composer, *Himalaya Song*)

***FAIR PLAY ALI KAZIMI ARTIST TALK**
100 McCaul, Room 231, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the infamous Komagatu Maru incident, Ali Kazimi discusses his most recent work, *Fair Play*. Through ten quiet vignettes, this new 3D installation depicts the lives of ordinary people who were affected by the arrival, detention and departure of the Komagata Maru. Moderated by Indu Vashist, Executive Director SAVAC.
Moderator: **Indu Vashist** (Executive Director, SAVAC)
Panelist: **Ali Kazimi** (Filmmaker, *Fair Play*)

ACCESS TO INDUSTRY SERIES EVENTS
Industry Series Pass—$45/$36** The Industry Series Pass is transferable and provides you with access to every Industry Series session and excellent networking opportunities. Plus, you can use your pass to redeem up to four complimentary tickets good for any regular or youth screenings (excluding Opening and Closing Night; including Richmond Hill).
**Discount applies to students with valid current ID, seniors over 65 (no ID required) and group sales (by arrangement).
All Industry Series sessions have limited space and are available on a first-come first-served basis.

For complete, updated information, please visit reelasian.com or contact Aram Collier at industry@reelasian.com.

MEDIA CONTACT

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Visit www.reelasian.com for further press information, including digital images, press releases, and accreditation.

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