

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

Toronto, October 8, 2013 – The eighth edition of the Industry Series (November 6-10) at the 17th 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 focuses on creative Minds, innovative Makers, Meeting decision makers and the very important component of filmmaking—Money. We turn up the wattage with a feature talk with star Hong Kong actor turned filmmaker **Simon Yam** (*Tales From The Dark Part 1, Stolen Body*). We also hear from powerhouse filmmakers **Ramona Diaz** (*Don't Stop Believin': Everyman's Journey*), **Zero Chou** (*Ripples of Desire*), and new Director General of the National Film Board **Ravida Din**. Not to be outdone are opportunities to hear entrepreneurial and creative content makers pushing creativity beyond the single screen at our "Make" day.

The Industry Series expands public access by offering all sessions for free*. Workshops and panels hosted by industry professionals offer many opportunities for filmmakers and producers at all levels to become inspired, to advance their current and future projects, and to expand their professional network.

The Industry Series culminates in its annual highlight—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, Samsung, Quat Media and Behind the Scenes Services. This highly anticipated event returns to the Royal Cinema where finalists must pitch their film in front of a public audience and a brand-new jury: **Michael Fukushima** (Producer, NFB), **Paul Wong** (Filmmaker), and **Kristine Estorninos** (Marketing and Distribution, Guru Studios).

*Speed Dating requires an application, pre-registration and a \$20 fee for selected participants. Business and Legal Affairs Master Class requires pre-registration

REEL ASIAN INDUSTRY SERIES 2013 SCHEDULE (NOVEMBER 6-10)

Industry Series sessions take place at:
AGO Weston Family Learning Centre (317 Dundas Street West)
AGO Jackman Hall (317 Dundas Street West),
Beit Zatoun (612 Markham Street)
All events are free and open to the public.

WED NOV 6: MONEY

AGO Weston Family Learning Centre, 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

FINANCE AND BANKING FOR FILMMAKERS

Session will cover accessing Canadian financing from various sources as well as how to work with a bank to best make use of your money.

Frank Manzo, Account Manager, TV & Motion Picture Group (National Bank)

BUSINESS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

PART 1 - MASTER CLASS (Pre-registration required)

PART 2 - BUSINESS AND LEGAL WORKSHOP

Proactive business affairs and legal experts help prepare your production for maximum financial success.

Workshop preceded by a hands-on, one-on-one business plan assessment.

Moderated by: **Karla Bobadilla** (Lewis Birnberg Hanet)

With: **Eric Birnberg** and **Thomas Walden** (Behind The Scenes Services)

GET YOUR FILM TO MARKET

Learn how to leverage festival activity into a sale for your film.

With: **Jennifer Chen**, Vice President Programming (Channel Zero)

THU NOV 7: MAKE

AGO Weston Family Learning Centre, 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Hear from these creative content makers who are innovating beyond filmmaking traditions by creating narratives and business models across many forms.

Sam Chou – CRIME: The Animated Series

Sam recently co-created, co-directed and co-produced the MOCAtv animated documentary web-series *CRIME: The Animated Series*.

Lillian Chan, John Poon, and Michael Mak – Ramen Party

Through animation, storybooks and toys Ramen Party is a collection of characters that introduces preschool children to hip trends in culture, music and food.

Dean Vargas – Déjà Vu

Part of Reel Asian's SPRUNG commission film, *Déjà Vu* is a live dance, video, and interactive motion-sensor-based project about mental health.

Qasim Virjee – GetFilmi.com

Featuring independent, documentary, classic and blockbusters films, GetFilmi.com is a way to watch Indian Cinema from anywhere.

Sagan Yee – Game Curious

Sagan works to open up the gaming world to novice creators and those who never saw gaming as a viable platform.

ARTIST TALK: SIMON YAM

AGO Jackman Hall, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Simon Yam is an internationally acclaimed Hong Kong actor who has starred in over 170 films in his career, including *SPL* (2005), *Election* (2005), *The Thieves* (2012), *Bodyguards and Assassins* (2009), *Ripples of Desire* (2012), and *Man of Tai Chi* (2013). His awards include Best Actor for *Echoes of the Rainbow* (2010 Hong Kong Film Awards), and Best Performance by an Actor for *Sparrow* (2008 Asia Pacific Screen Awards). Yam makes his directorial debut with Reel Asian's Centerpiece film *Tales From The Dark Part 1 (Stolen Body)*.

FRI NOV 8: MEET

Beit Zatoun, 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

SPEED DATING

Beit Zatoun, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM, Pre-registration required, \$20 fee for selected applicants

Gain valuable knowledge, guidance and/or make a great impression for your current or next project during these one-on-one meetings with industry experts and seasoned professionals.

Mentors:

Anita Lee, Producer (National Film Board of Canada)

John Galway, President (The Harold Greenberg Fund)

Paritosh Mehta, Director, Independent Production Development (Rogers Media)

Jennifer Chen, Vice President Programming (Channel Zero)

Linda Fong, Independent Production Officer, TVO

Anderson Le, Programmer Hawaii International Film Festival, LA Asian Pacific Film Festival,

MEET MARKET

Beit Zatoun, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Chat with a Speed Dating Mentor over a drink or make a few creative connections with new acquaintances.

SAT NOV 9: MINDS

RAVIDA DIN: ART, SOCIAL OBJECTIVES AND MEANING

Beit Zatoun, 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Our stories are bound to the circumstances and contexts unique to each location and cultural frame. The ethics of representation, intervention and interaction necessitate a new grammar that recognizes storytelling as a profoundly political act. **Ravida Din** will explore why it matters who makes it and the power of storytelling as a transformational force.

MASTER CLASS WITH RAMONA DIAZ

Beit Zatoun, 2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Celebrated filmmaker **Ramona Diaz**, director of documentaries *Imelda*, *The Learning* and *Don't Stop Believin': Everyman's Journey* talk about her experiences in drawing out the best human stories from anyone including former presidents, teachers and high profile rockers.

SUN NOV 10

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH? Live Finale

AGO Jackman Hall, 10:00 AM - 12:00 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 2013:

Michael Fukushima (Producer, NFB)

Paul Wong (Filmmaker)

Kristine Estorninos (Marketing and Distribution, Guru Studios)

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 10.

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

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

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