



## **2016 REEL ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL FACT SHEET AND HIGHLIGHTS**

For **Chinese** highlights from the festival, please click [here](#)  
For **Japanese** highlights from the festival, please click [here](#)  
For **Korean** highlights from the festival, please click [here](#)

**Number of films:** 77

**Features:** 19

**Shorts:** 56

**Music + Film Presentations:** 2

**North American:** 46 (35 shorts, 9 features, 2 music + film presentations)

**Number of titles directed by females:** 41

**World Premieres:** 21

**International Premieres:** 4

**North American Premieres:** 8

**Canadian Premieres:** 19

**Toronto Premieres:** 9

## **2016 REGIONS REPRESENTED**

All feature films in Reel Asian's 2016 line up were produced or co-produced in the following 10 regions:

- Belgium
- Canada
- China
- Hong Kong
- India
- Japan
- Philippines
- South Korea
- Taiwan
- United States

All short films in Reel Asian's 2016 line up were produced or co-produced in the following 12 regions:

- China
- Canada
- France

Hong Kong  
India  
Indonesia  
Japan  
Philippines  
South Korea  
Taiwan  
United States  
Vietnam

## **GUESTS**

Guests in attendance at this year's festival include:

### **Galas:**

SOUL MATE, Derek Tsang (director)  
RITES OF PASSAGE, Ohbijou (performer)  
RITES OF PASSAGE, Casey Mecija (director)  
RITES OF PASSAGE, Alison Kobayashi (director)  
RITES OF PASSAGE, Leslie Supnet (director)  
RITES OF PASSAGE, May Truong (director)  
SAIRAT, Nagraj Manjule (director)  
MY EGG BOY, Fu Tien-Yu (director)  
MY EGG BOY, Rhydian Vaughan (actor)

### **Spotlight:**

WINDOW HORSES, Ann Marie Fleming (director, Canadian Spotlight Artist)

### **Features:**

DOUBLE HAPPINESS, Mina Shum (director)  
THE LOCKPICKER, Randall Okita (director)  
THE LOCKPICKER, Keigian Umi Tang (actor)  
MIXED MATCH, Jeff Chiba Stearns (director)  
MIXED MATCH, Athena Asklipiadis (documentary subject)  
WEEDS ON FIRE, Tony Wu Tsz Tung (actor)

### **Music + Film Presentations:**

NARI, Gingger Shankar (director/performer)  
NARI, Carlo Ribaux (performer)  
NARI, Vivek Maddala (performer)

### **Shorts:**

36 QUESTIONS, Jennifer Su (director)  
A CELLO IN THE SUBWAY, Iven Tu (director)  
A CONVERSATION WITH HANA, Eui Yong Zong (director)  
A DROWNFUL OF BRILLANCE OF WINGS, Sofia Bohdanowicz (director)  
ALMOST ASIAN, Katie Malia  
BABY TONGUE, Vivan Or (director)  
CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE FIRST KIND, Samuel Wong (director)  
ESSIE AND I, Sophie Wang (director)  
FROM BEAVIS (M) TO BEATRICE (F), Wong Suet-ling Beatrice (director)  
GOREE, Haaris Qadri (director)

I DID IT ALL FOR YOU, Jenn Ko, Ryan Pickering, Sabrina Nemis (directors)  
THE MOMENTS BEFORE ENCOUNTER, Michael Tian (director)  
NUTAG- HOMELAND; SOLITUDE, Alisi Telengut (director)  
PLAYGROUNDS, Shamik Sen Gupta (director)  
PLAYGROUNDS, Pallavi MD (director)  
PONYTAIL, Gerald Fantone (director)  
THE SEA WITHIN, Wai Nap Wong (director)  
STIR, Niara Modi (director)  
SWIM LOW, Amanda Ann-Min Wong (director)  
SUGAR BROWN, Justin Lee (director)  
THE SUITCASE, Philip Leung (director)  
THE TIME AGENT, Jude Chun (director)  
THE WRONG BLOCK, Sam Chou (director)

**Out-of-town Jury:**

Pitch Jury – Michael Fukushima (Executive Producer, National Film Board)  
Features Jury – Shu Kei (Dean of Film & Television, Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts)  
Features Jury – Jongsuk Thomas Nam (NAFF Managing Director, Bucheon Int’l Fantastic Film Festival)  
Pitch Jury – Kattie Fan (Festival Director, Incubator for Film & Visual Media in Asia)

## **REEL ASIAN 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY FACTS**

First Reel Asian: November 1997

First Venues: Bloor Cinema, John Spotton Theatre at NFB

Venues 2016: The Isabel Bader Theatre, AGO Jackman Hall, TIFF Bell Lightbox, Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, Aga Khan Museum, Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts

Number of days 1997: 4

Number of days 2016: 12

Locations 1997: downtown Toronto

Locations 2016: downtown Toronto, North York, Richmond Hill

Number of countries represented 1997: 2 (Canada & USA)

Number of countries represented 2016: 13

Budget 1997: \$5,000

Budget 2016: \$690,000

Number of staff 1997: Zero (volunteer run)

Number of staff 2016: 4 full-time, 3 part-time

Number of films 1997: 18 (including works featuring Justin Lin, John Cho, Sandra Oh)

Number of films 2016: 77

Reel Asian celebrates 20 years of showcasing the best in contemporary Asian cinema, providing a public forum for Asian media artists and inciting the growing appreciation for Asian cinema in Canada. **Tickets go on sale starting October 11 on [reelasian.com](http://reelasian.com).**

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival gratefully acknowledges the support of Presenting Sponsor National Bank, and government funders the Department of Canadian Heritage, Canada Council for the Arts, Telefilm, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund, a program of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Ontario Media Development Corporation, Ontario Arts Council, and the Toronto Arts Council.

### **About Reel Asian**

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival (Reel Asian), presented by National Bank, is a unique showcase of contemporary Asian cinema and work from the Asian diaspora. As Canada's largest Asian film festival, Reel Asian® provides a public forum for Asian media artists and their work, and fuels the growing appreciation for Asian cinema in Canada. The 20th annual film festival runs in November 2016 in Toronto and Richmond Hill. Reel Asian will be showcasing special projects featuring prominent artists, musicians, up-and-coming filmmakers and also includes Reel Ideas events for creative minds to connect. Works presented at Reel Asian include films and videos by East, South and Southeast Asian artists in Canada, the U.S., Asia and all over the world.

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