



BEST IN ASIAN FILM
ONLY THE

16th
TORONTO reelasian INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Major Sponsors



16th Annual Edition
November 6– 17, 2012
reelasian.com

CONTENTS

- 2 Credits & Acknowledgements
- 3 Toronto Venue Map & Ticketing
- 4 Schedule at a Glance
- 6 Sponsors & Government Funders
- 7 Community Partners & Festival Awards

TORONTO

Tues Nov 6

- 11 Opening Night Gala: First Time

Wed Nov 7

- 13 Canadian Spotlight: Michael Fukushima
- 14 TIFF Cinematheque's Free Screen
- 15 Shorts: Once Lost, Now Found
- 17 Stateless Things

Thu Nov 8

- 19 Shorts: It's Not What You Think
- 21 Daylight Savings
- 23 Shorts: *Unsung Voices*
- 24 Egg and Stone
- 25 Lung Neaw Visits His Neighbours
- 27 Graceland

Fri Nov 9

- 29 Shorts: Escape or Reality
- 30 Centrepiece: Prison Dancer
- 31 People's Park
- 33 Valley of Saints
- 35 Hometown Boy
- 37 Tatsumi

Sat Nov 10

- 39 A Fish
- 41 The Mirror Never Lies
- 43 Dal Puri Diaspora
- 45 Jake Shimabukuro: Life on Four Strings
- 47 Wolf Children
- 49 Cold Steel

Sun Nov 11

- 50 Seeking Asian Female
- 51 Shorts: Hard Look
- 52 10+10
- 53 Closing Night Gala: Architecture 101

RICHMOND HILL

Fri Nov 16

- 54 Richmond Hill Venue Map & Ticketing
- 55 Richmond Hill Opening: Floating City

Sat Nov 17

- 56 Cha Cha for Twins
- 57 The Woodsman and the Rain
- 58 Richmond Hill Closing: The Fruit Hunters

- 59 Festival Jury
- 60 Industry Series
- 62 Exhibition: Collector(s)
- 63 Exhibition: Autumn Colours After Zhao Mengfu
- 64 Exhibition As a Guest + Host
- 64 Print Source

TORONTO REEL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

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reelasian.com

Charitable Registration Number # 8700 21 38 3RR 0001



BACK: (Left to Right) Nobu Nakamura, Arthur Yeung, Louanne Chan, Chris Chin, Aram Siu Wai Collier, Michael Tjioe
FRONT: (Left to Right): Serena Lee, Jessie Lau, Henry Wong, Tina Zafreen Alam, Gina Rim, Christen Cheung, Grace Li, Alka Sharma
Missing: Stephanie Law, Jaspreet Sandhu, Chi-Hui Yang, Anderson Le, Jenna Rodgers

On behalf of our staff, board of directors and advisory board, I would like to welcome you to the 16th edition of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival—including our second annual satellite festival at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. As always, we are so excited to bring you the best in contemporary Asian Cinema.

We booked our festival with star-studded love stories that we can all relate to. Our Opening Night Gala film, *First Time*, directed by Han Yan, stars two of Asia's rising young stars, Mark Chao and Angelababy, and tells the story of a terminally ill young girl in love who records her memories on a cassette tape when a high school crush reappears in her world. Closing the festival is the Korean box office hit *Architecture 101*, starring Han Ga-In, Uhm Tae-Woong and Bae Suzy in a drama about time, relationships and love.

This year we embark on two new ventures. We are honoured to bring you Musa Syeed's award-winning feature film *Valley of Saints* as part of our Toronto festival. This supports Reel Asian's initiative to begin programming South Asian films in 2013. As part of our expanding educational initiatives, we can't wait to unveil *Unsung Voices*, the product of an inaugural workshop for non-filmmaker youth, which reminds us how special first films are.

In addition to our exciting cinematic lineup and new initiatives, we provide professional development opportunities for local and visiting directors, producers and artists. Our Industry Series—now in its seventh year—offers workshops, panels, salons and one-on-one sessions with experts in the field, along with the short-film/video competition *So You Think You Can Pitch?*

As Reel Asian's Interim Executive Director, I have had big shoes to fill while Sonia Sakamoto-Jog has been on maternity leave. I could not have made it work without our incredible, hard-working team of staff and the board of directors. As well, thank you to our government liaisons, community organizations, festival sponsors and volunteers for your hard work and dedication. From all of us here at Reel Asian, welcome and enjoy!

Alka Sharma, Interim Executive Director

We live in uncertain times. Austerity abounds, and yet filmmakers still find a way to challenge and illuminate, innovate and entertain. The films in this year's festival remind us why we come together every year to celebrate the best in Asian film.

Our Reel Asian filmmakers take us all over the world and are presenting a greater global perspective than ever before, with stories from China, Hawaii, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Kashmir, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the Philippines and from back home in Canada. Risking physical and emotional scars, Ron Morales and Huang Ji make the daring feature films *Graceland* and *Egg and Stone*, respectively. We see innovation in films like Park Hong-min's 3D mystery, *A Fish*, Libbie Cohn and JP Sniadecki's 75-minute one-shot *People's Park* and Romeo Candido's talent-rich transmedia live performance of hometown production *Prison Dancer*. Meanwhile, Toronto director Richard Fung's food doc, *Dal Puri Diaspora*, reminds us of the myriad ways that we all define our sense of home.

Continuing our efforts to present media art beyond the theatre screen is a three-pronged take on Chinese visual culture, featuring video artist Zhou Tao's first solo show *Collectors* and presentations by Hank Bull and Video Bureau. With our Canadian Spotlight we pull back the curtain on the intricacies of producing with award-winning producer Michael Fukushima, who's contributed to the art of filmmaking by guiding others in a spirit of collaboration.

This program would not have been possible without the contributions of Anderson Le and Chi-hui Yang, our globe-trotting international programming consultants; my perpetual sounding board, Programming Coordinator Serena Lee; our wonderful programming teams; and the Reel Asian staff. It is truly a special program, and it could not have been accomplished without their input and hard work.

A film festival cannot exist if there aren't filmmakers bold enough to dare. It also cannot exist without our amazing audience and the community, willing to support these efforts. I hope that filmmakers and audiences can continue to enjoy each other together. Happy festival!

Aram Siu Wai Collier, Director of Programming

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FESTIVAL DESIGN

Shingo Shimizu, shingo.ca

FESTIVAL VIDEO PRODUCER

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FESTIVAL TRAILER

Writer/Director: Joyce Wong

Producer: Leonardo Dell'anno

Creative Consultant: Dave Strasser

Cast: Pierre Bayuga, Audrey Wu, Joel Kim

Cinematographer: Barry Cheong

Editor: Celeste Damos

Sound Designer: Chandra Bulucon at Puppy Machine

Production Designer: Sonia Hong

Art Director: Olga Barsky

Production Manager: Aylwin Lo

1st Assistant Director: Henry Wong

1st Assistant Camera: Chris Reilly

Key Grip: T.J. Richardson

3rd Grip: Simon Jordan

Best Boy Grip: Andrew Tays

Makeup Artist: Liz Bjerkseth

Production Assistants:
Leni Gu, Jessie Lau, Megan Tan,
Nicole Ng, Chloe Hung, Luke Yung

Extras: Barnett Chow, Errol Elumir, Therese Estacion, Vivian Lin, Victoria Marie, Mike Tjioe, Daryl Chow

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SCREENING & INDUSTRY VENUES

1. Isabel Bader Theatre
93 Charles St W @ Queen's Park
416-585-4498 7&(:)2⊕
2. TIFF Bell Lightbox
350 King St W @ John
416-599-8433 &::⊕
3. Innis Town Hall
2 Sussex Ave @ St. George
416-946-7066 6&6⊕
4. AGO Jackman Hall
317 Dundas St W @ McCaul St
416-979-6660 x467 6&::6⊕
5. The Royal Theatre
608 College St @ Clinton
416-466-4400 4&2⊕
6. University College
15 King's College Circle,
University of Toronto
416-979-2500 1&1⊕
7. No One Writes To The Colonel
460 College St @ Bathurst
416-928-6777 (&)⊕

SPECIAL EVENTS VENUES

8. Crown Princess
1033 Bay St, S of St. Mary
416-923-8784 &⊕
9. The Monarch Festival Hub
12 Clinton St, S of College
416-531-5833 (&)⊕
10. Bar Italia
582 College St @ Clinton
416-535-3621 (&)⊕

GALLERY VENUES

11. TPW R&D
1256 Dundas St W @ Dovercourt
416-645-1066 (&)⊕
12. East Gallery
334 Dundas St W, E of Beverley
416-705-4331

ADVANCE BOX OFFICE

13. T.O. Tix
Yonge-Dundas Square
416-536-6468 x40 &⊕

ACCOMMODATIONS

14. Annex Quest House
83 Spadina Rd @ Kendal
416-922-1934
15. Super 8 Toronto City Centre
222 Spadina Ave @ Sullivan
647-426-8118 (&)
16. Metropolitan Hotel
108 Chestnut St, S of Dundas
416-977-5000 (&)

4& fully accessible/4 seats available
 2(&) partially accessible/2 seats available
 :: braille throughout venue
 (::) limited braille at venue
 2⊕ seating available for 2 support persons

BEFORE THE FESTIVAL

- Online sales begin October 9 through reelasian.com (powered by TicketWeb). Online sales continue during the festival (see below).
- Walk-up sales begin at 12:00 PM on October 10 – November 3 through T.O. Tix at Yonge-Dundas Square (open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 12:00 PM-6:00 PM). For future-day tickets during the festival, see below.
- Charge-by-phone: 1-888-222-6608 beginning 6:00 PM on October 9 until November 5. Phone sales continue during the festival (see below).
- Group Sales available by calling 416-703-9333 between 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM on weekdays. No pre-arranged group sales during the festival. Last day for group sales November 2.

DURING THE FESTIVAL

FUTURE-DAY TICKETS

- Online sales through reelasian.com until 11:55 PM on the day before the show.
- Walk-up sales (cash only) at the Future-Day Sales Desk at each venue, starting one hour before the first show of the day at the following venues: Innis Town Hall, November 7 & 8; Jackman Hall, November 8; Royal Cinema, November 11 & 12—this desk closes 20 minutes after start of the last show of the day. Jackman Hall only sells future-day tickets for shows screening at that venue.
- Charge by phone: 1-888-222-6608 until the day before the show.

SAME-DAY TICKETS

- Available one hour before the screening.
- Walk-up sales at each venue (cash only). Same-day tickets are only sold for that venue's shows.

TICKETS & PASSES:

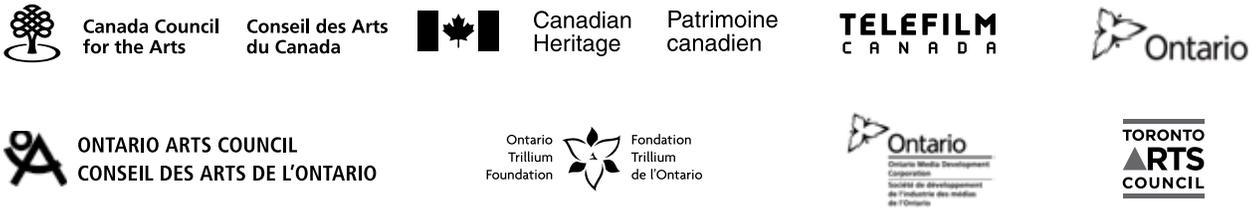
	REGULAR PRICE	DISCOUNT PRICE*
Regular & Youth Screenings	\$12	\$10
Opening Night Gala (incl party)	\$20	\$15
Closing Night Gala (incl party)	\$15	\$12
Centrepiece Presentation	\$15	\$12
Festival Pass	\$80	\$65
Industry Series Pass	\$40	\$36
4-Pack (no galas or centrepiece, in advance only)	\$36	\$30

All our venues welcome service animals and guide dogs. Films not in English are presented with English subtitles. For more information on accessibility, please visit our website, email access@reelasian.com, or call 416-703-9333.

*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.

		10AM	11AM	12NOON	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM	1AM	
TUES NOV 06	SCREENING										7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Isabel Bader Theatre OPENING NIGHT GALA: FIRST TIME (P.11)							
	SPECIAL EVENT												9:00 PM - 12:30 AM Crown Princess TORONTO OPENING NIGHT GALA PARTY (P.11)					
WED NOV 07	SCREENING								5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Innis Town Hall CDN ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: MICHAEL FUKUSHIMA (P.13)		7:15 PM - 8:45 PM Innis Town Hall SHORTS PRESENTATION: ONCE LOST, NOW FOUND (P.15)		9:15 PM - 11:30 PM Innis Town Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: STATELESS THINGS (P.17)					
	SCREENING										7:00 PM - 8:30 PM TIFF Bell Lightbox CINEMATHEQUE FREE SCREEN: IT MAY BE THAT...MASAO ADACHI (P.14)							
	INDUSTRY SERIES		11:00 AM - 12:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel SCRIPTWRITING MASTERCLASS (P.60)	12:00 PM - 1:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel SCRIPTWRITING WORKSHOP (P.60)		2:00 PM - 3:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel GET YOUR FILM TO MARKET (P.60)		4:00 PM - 5:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel RENAISSANCE FILMMAKERS (P.60)										
THU NOV 08	SCREENING									5:40 PM - 7:15 PM Innis Town Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS (P.21)		7:40 PM - 9:30 PM Innis Town Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: EGG AND STONE (P.24)				9:55 PM - 11:30 PM Innis Town Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: GRACELAND (P.27)		
	SCREENING				1:00 PM - 2:30 PM AGO Jackman Hall YOUTH SHORTS PRESENTATION: IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK (P.19)					6:00 PM - 7:30 PM AGO Jackman Hall SHORTS PRESENTATION: UNsung VOICES (P.23)		8:00 PM - 10:30 PM AGO Jackman Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: LUNG NEAW VISITS HIS NEIGHBOURS (P.25)						
	INDUSTRY SERIES		11:00 AM - 12:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel ARTIST TALK: KIM KYUNG-MOOK (P.60)	12:30 PM - 1:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel BUSINESS & LEGAL MASTERCLASS (P.60)	1:30 PM - 3:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel BUSINESS & LEGAL WORKSHOP (P.60)													
	SPECIAL EVENT									5:30 PM - 8:00 PM TPW R&D EXHIBITION & RECEPTION COLLECTOR(S) (P.62)								
FRI NOV 09	SCREENING										6:45 PM - 8:15 PM The Royal CENTREPIECE PRESENTATION: PRISON DANCER (P.30)		8:45 PM - 10:45 PM The Royal SPECIAL PRESENTATION: VALLEY OF SAINTS (P.33)			11:00 PM - 12:45 AM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: TATSUMI (P.37)		
	SCREENING				1:00 PM - 2:30 PM AGO Jackman Hall YOUTH SHORTS PRESENTATION: ESCAPE OR REALITY (P.29)						7:00 PM - 8:30 PM AGO Jackman Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: PEOPLE'S PARK (P.31)		9:00 PM - 10:15 PM AGO Jackman Hall FEATURE PRESENTATION: HOMETOWN BOY (P.35)					
	INDUSTRY SERIES		11:00 PM - 12:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel FOOD FOR THOUGHT (P.60)		1:00 PM - 2:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel MASTER CLASS: DAVID WU TAI-WAI (P.60)		3:00 PM - 4:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel SPEED DATING (P.61)	4:30 PM - 6:30 PM No One Writes to the Colonel MEET MARKET (P.61)										
	INDUSTRY SERIES				1:00 PM - 3:00 PM University College (U of T) QUEER FILM (P.61)													
	SPECIAL EVENT									5:00 PM - 7:00 PM East Gallery VIDEO LECTURE & RECEPTION: AUTUMN COLOURS AFTER ZHAO MENGFU (P.63)			8:00 PM - 2:00 AM Monarch Festival Hub PRISON DANCER KARAOKE AFTERPARTY (P.30)					
SAT NOV 10	SCREENING		11:45 AM - 1:45 PM The Royal 3D FEATURE PRESENTATION: A FISH (P.39)			2:15 PM - 4:00 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: THE MIRROR NEVER LIES (P.41)		4:30 PM - 6:00 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: DAL PURI DIASPORA (P.43)		6:30 PM - 8:00 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: JAKE SHIMABUKURO (P.45)		8:15 PM - 10:15 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: THE WOLF CHILDREN (P.47)			10:45 PM - 12:50 AM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: COLD STEEL (P.49)			
	INDUSTRY SERIES			12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Venue TBA TRANSMEDIA WORLD EXPRESS (P.61)		2:30 PM - 4:00 PM Venue TBA 3D FOR REAL (P.61)		4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Venue TBA CO-PRODUCTIONS: ASIA & NORTH AMERICA (P.61)										
	SPECIAL EVENT									6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Monarch Festival Hub RUM 'N' ROTI LIME (DAL PURI DIASPORA RECEPTION) (P.43)		8:00 PM - 9:30 PM Monarch Festival Hub REEL ASIAN UKULELE JAM (P.45)	9:30 PM - 2:00 AM Monarch Festival Hub MUSIC NIGHT & FUNDRAISER: LIVE ON FOUR STRINGS presented by TORONTOUKES & CORKTOWN UKE JAM (P.45)					
SUN NOV 11	SCREENING				1:00 PM - 2:30 PM The Royal FEATURE PRESENTATION: SEEKING ASIAN FEMALE (P.50)		3:00 PM - 4:45 PM The Royal SHORTS PRESENTATION: HARD LOOK (P.51)		5:15 PM - 7:15 PM The Royal OMNIBUS PRESENTATION: RUM 'N' ROTI LIME (P.52)			8:15 PM - 10:45 PM The Royal TORONTO CLOSING NIGHT GALA & AWARDS: ARCHITECTURE 101 (P.53)						
	INDUSTRY SERIES		11:00 AM - 12:30 PM The Royal SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH? LIVE FINALE (P.61)		1:00 PM - 3:00 PM No One Writes to the Colonel INDUSTRY SERIES RECEPTION (P.61)													
	SPECIAL EVENT														10:30 PM - 2:00 AM Bar Italia TORONTO CLOSING NIGHT GALA PARTY (P.53)			
FRI NOV 16	SCREENING										7:00 PM - 9:15 PM RICHMOND HILL CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS RICHMOND HILL OPENING NIGHT: FLOATING CITY (P.55)							
SAT NOV 17	SCREENING				1:30 PM - 3:15 PM RICHMOND HILL CTR FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS FEATURE PRESENTATION: CHA CHA FOR TWINS (P.56)		4:00 PM - 6:15 PM RICHMOND HILL CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS FEATURE PRESENTATION: THE WOODSMAN AND THE RAIN (P.57)				7:00 PM - 9:00 PM RICHMOND HILL CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS RICHMOND HILL CLOSING NIGHT: THE FRUIT HUNTERS (P.58)							

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All films made by female GTA-based artists are eligible
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CLOSING NIGHT GALA AND AWARDS CEREMONY

The 2012 Festival Awards will be presented
preceding the Closing Night Gala on Nov 11. See
page 53.



**PRIME MINISTER OF
CANADA**

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 16th annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

This event welcomes award-winning Asian productions, as well as independent works by Asian Canadian directors. Audiences will be able to enjoy an eclectic line up of dramas, documentaries and animated films. Through its insightful workshops and media arts exhibition series, the festival also fosters the exchange of ideas and techniques among local and visiting industry professionals.

I would like to congratulate all those presenting their work this year for their efforts to bring their talent, passion, and heritage to the screen. I would also like to commend the festival organizers, and volunteers for sharing this splendid showcase of Asian cinema with your fellow Canadians.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I wish you a most enjoyable experience.

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



**MEMBER OF
PARLIAMENT**

Dear Friends: It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 16th annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

One of Toronto's best features is its rich cultural diversity. As a festival celebrating the achievements of people from different Asian communities, the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival is a showcase for the best and the brightest. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to encourage, promote and showcase the artistic expressions of amazing artists from around the country. I know how essential arts and culture are for our communities, and the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival is a testament to the creativity of our friends in the community, and it has gained respect of local and national audiences over the years.

I know you will love this year's line-up of films, videos and documentaries, carefully selected by the festival's organizers and programmers. Filmgoers will undoubtedly gain new insights into Asian cultures over the course of this brilliant festival.

Congratulations to the talented filmmakers, staff and volunteers of the Festival for their dedication and commitment in bringing the very best to Toronto.

I hope you will come away educated, enlightened and inspired. Best wishes for an enjoyable festival. Sincerely,

*Olivia Chow, MP,
Trinity-Spadina*



PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I would like to extend greetings to everyone attending the 16th Annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

Film mirrors the human experience and offers a glimpse into other lives and cultures. By presenting the latest works in film and video, this festival gives Asian media artists from Canada and around the world the chance to share their vision and fuel the growing appreciation for Asian cinema.

I thank the dedicated and hard-working staff, volunteers and board members of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival for giving audiences a chance to experience local, national and international film and video, and for giving artists a valuable forum for their work. Your tireless commitment to celebrating excellence in contemporary Asian cinema is to be commended.

I would also like to take this opportunity to applaud the talented artists, whose vision and creativity enhance the cultural landscape—and make our world a more vibrant place.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful and enjoyable festival.

*Dalton McGuinty
Premier*



**MINISTER OF TOURISM,
CULTURE AND SPORT**

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am pleased to extend greetings to everyone attending this year's Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

Films can help us experience the world, broaden our perspective and celebrate diversity. As Canada's largest Asian film festival, this event is a wonderful opportunity to explore the contributions of Asian filmmakers from all over the world, and the Government of Ontario is proud to support this exciting event.

I would like to thank all the staff and volunteers for helping this festival to grow year after year by dedicating their time, enthusiasm and tireless effort.

Please accept my best wishes for another memorable event!

*Michael Chan
Minister*



MPP

Welcome to the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival!

The City of Toronto is like no other—a city of communities and neighbourhoods where everyone can experience the cultures of others. All across this city, people participate and share in the festivals, foods and literature from around the world.

Film festivals like Reel Asian add to the flavour and appeal of this city. The efforts of the staff and volunteers ensure Ontarians are able to see the best of contemporary Asian cinema. The festival's workshops, forums, screenings and visits from Asian filmmakers are invaluable to members of our own film industry. An event like the Reel Asian Film Festival further establishes Toronto as a true city of cinephiles.

Congratulations on the 16th anniversary of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival! I'm sure it will once again be a huge success.

Sincerely,

*Rosario Marchese MPP,
Trinity-Spadina*



MAYOR OF TORONTO

It is with great pleasure that I welcome everyone attending the 16th Annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

Toronto is recognized as a central hub in the film industry and is home to numerous film festivals and events. These festivals acknowledge the spectacular work and accomplishments of film and media professionals from Toronto and the rest of the world.

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival showcases the work of both emerging and veteran independent film and video makers of East and Southeast Asian descent who will display their work based on contemporary Asian cinema and the Asian diaspora. As Canada's largest Asian film festival, it fuels the growing appreciation that exists for Asian cinema in Canada.

I congratulate the organizers, volunteers, filmmakers, industry representatives and enthusiasts who played a role in this year's festival and for contributing to the film industry in Toronto.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for a successful event.

Yours Truly,

*Mayor Rob Ford,
City of Toronto*



MAYOR OF RICHMOND HILL

On behalf of the Members of Council, I am very pleased to bring greetings to everyone attending the 16th 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 filmmakers 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,

*Mayor Dave Barrow
Town of Richmond Hill*



Hong Kong animators were
the creative force behind
Shrek and Ninja Turtles.
Whatever comes next,
I want to be part of it.



Agnes Choy - Hong Kong animator

Hong Kong's unique blend of East and West, old and new provides an ideal environment for creativity to thrive alongside the city's more traditional business sectors. Some 32 000 creative industry-related establishments and over 176 000 practitioners are engaged in fields ranging from animation to digital entertainment, fashion to industrial design, film making and special effects to music, dance, painting and many other art forms. The arts and cultural scene in Asia's world city is set to become even more colourful as the West Kowloon Cultural District develops on a harbour front site over the next five years.



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FIRST TIME

第一次

Official Selection—Shanghai International Film Festival 2012

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG

Director: Han Yan (in attendance) | China/Hong Kong 2012 | 106:00 | DCP | Mandarin w/English Subtitles

Producers: Ivy Ho, Bill Kong, Hao Lee | Writer: Han Yan | Cinematographer: Charlie Lam | Editor: Angie Lam

Sound: Zhou Lei | Music: Chan Fai Young, Zhou Jiao Jiao | Cast: Angelababy, Mark Chao, Shan Jiang, Bai Baihe, Tian Yuan, Allen Chao

Suffering from a lifelong illness that requires constant medication, shy college student Song Shiqiao (Hong Kong model, Angelababy) spends each day with her overprotective mother (Shan Jiang) and earnestly chronicles her quiet life on cassette tapes in order to replay and supplement her patchy memory. Serendipitously, Shiqiao runs into a past crush from school named Gong Ning (Taiwanese heartthrob Mark Chao, *Monga, Black and White*). Much to the interest of Gong Ning's bandmates and to the dismay of Shiqiao's mother, an unlikely romance quickly blooms between the sickly Shiqiao and the seemingly nonchalant rock singer. But like every cassette tape, there is an "A" and "B" side to this love story.

A remake of the 2003 Korean film (with the unusual title, "...ing"), this heartfelt tale of first love has been revamped by director Han Yan. This latest adaptation surpasses the Korean original by utilizing whimsical visuals (by Hong Kong artists Wing Shya and Sui Hak) and rich cinematography to depict the sweetness of romance, equally full of laughter and tears. *First Time's* fascinating twists and turns elevate the story beyond more than just a saccharine romance, to one with a deeper message about living, and loving, life.

- Anderson Le

Opening Night Gala Party

TUE NOV 6 | 9:00 PM - 12:30PM

Crown Princess | 1033 Bay St (S of St. Mary St)

\$15 | Free with Opening Night ticket stub

Reel Asian returns to the luxurious Crown Princess to celebrate the opening of our 16th annual edition at Toronto's paragon of Hong Kong-style fine dining. Dine on complimentary dim sum beneath towering marble walls and crystal chandeliers. Enjoy drinks from Barefoot Wine and sparkling conversation as DJ Winnie spins a soundscape of soulful grooves.

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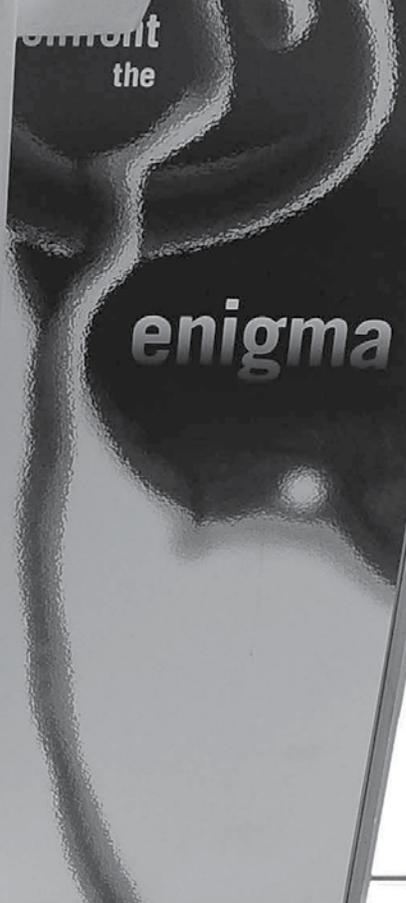


HONG KONG
ECONOMIC &
TRADE OFFICE
(CANADA)



Han Yan is a graduate of the Central Academy of Drama in Beijing. He has made four feature films to date: Who I Gave My First Kiss To (2006), Angel's Heart (2007), The Tropic of Cancer (2008) and Let's Go (2009). The Tropic of Cancer was Han's answer to the popular Taiwanese coming-of-age film Winds of September (Dir. Tom Lin). Han was hand-picked among many young Mainland directors chosen by the project's producer, veteran actor Eric Tsang, in Tsang's effort to showcase new talent from Taiwan, Hong Kong, and China.

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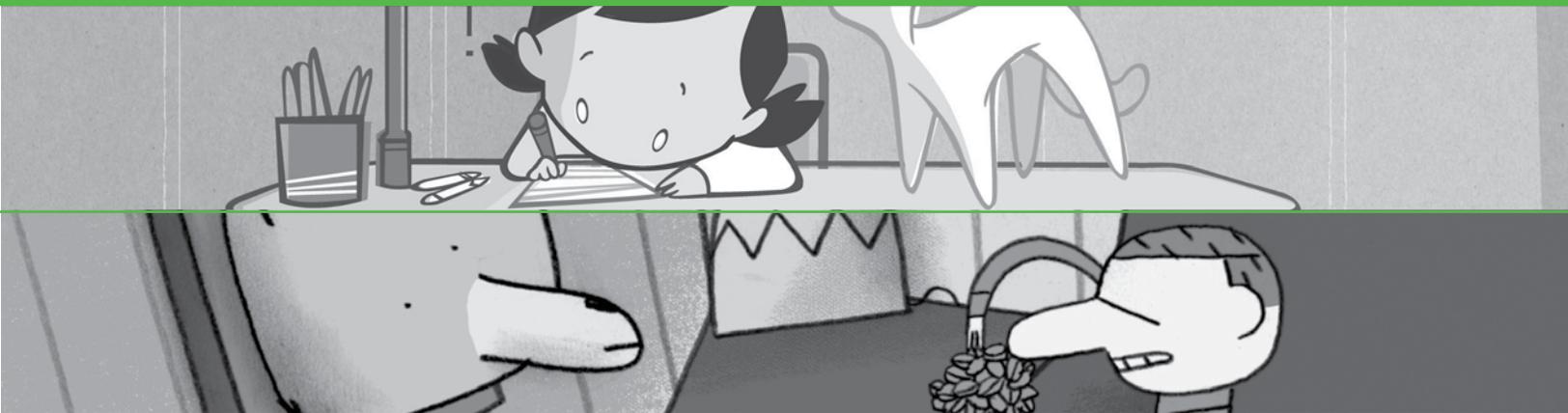


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MICHAEL FUKUSHIMA : THE ART OF PRODUCING ART



Reel Asian has always shone the spotlight on a Canadian director or group of directors with our Canadian Spotlight program. For the first time, we focus on an individual whose primary work lies elsewhere. With our spotlight on award-winning producer Michael Fukushima, we look to investigate creative roles and break the stereotype of director as the only 'auteur' of a work—the sole proprietor of creative vision. We hope to demystify the producing process through a screening of Fukushima's work (both his own and his collaborations) and a discussion of the art of producing. In the discussion, Fukushima will be joined by several directors with whom he worked—and will address topics unique to creative producing such as risk-taking, building creative teams and the vagaries of success.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



Michael Fukushima has been making films since 1984. He joined the National Film Board in 1990, directing the Hot Docs-winning animated documentary, Minoru: Memory of Exile, and becoming an NFB animation producer in 1997. Fukushima co-created the NFB's flagship emerging filmmaker program, Hothouse, and his credits reflect an eclecticism and diversity, particularly around abstract and slightly off-centre animation. He has worked hard to open up the genre to new audiences and new technologies, through interactive installations, mobile phones and urban stories. He is a multi-

award-winning producer, most recently winning two awards at the Hiroshima Animation Film Festival. He is staying busy by developing a slate of "arty" short films by a bevy of interesting young Canadian creators alongside a handful of international co-productions and films by veteran Canadian filmmakers like Cordell Barker and Bruce Alcock.

PROGRAM RATED G

MINORU: MEMORY OF EXILE

Michael Fukushima* | Canada 1992 | 19:00

CNOTE

Chris Hinton | Canada 2004 | 7:00

FLUTTER

Howie Shia* | Canada 2006 | 7:00

JAMIE LO SMALL AND SHY

Lillian Chan* | Canada 2006 | 8:00

DIMANCHE (SUNDAY)

Patrick Doyon | Canada 2011 | 10:00

* Directors in attendance

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IT MAY BE THAT BEAUTY HAS STRENGTHENED OUR RESOLVE: MASAO ADACHI

IL SE PEUT QUE LA BEAUTÉ AIT RENFORCÉ NOTRE RÉOLUTION: MASAO ADACHI

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG

Director: Philippe Grandrieux | France 2011 | 72:00 | video

[According to the poet Schiller] ... the work of art introduces the observing individual to a moral emancipation: the individual sees, thanks to the work of art, how beauty is delivered from all constraints and is nurtured solely by freedom.

- Nicole Brenez

The first in a planned series of films about radical filmmakers by film critic Nicole Brenez and filmmaker Philippe Grandrieux, *It May Be That Beauty Has Strengthened Our Resolve* is a portrait of Masao Adachi, who emerged during the Japanese New Wave of the 1960s as a screenwriter for Nagisa Oshima and Koji Wakamatsu, and directed a series of avant-garde films that grafted radical politics to the sexploitation genre. A 1971 visit to a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) training camp while on the way back from Cannes resulted in Adachi's most infamous film, the agit-prop documentary *Red Army/PFLP: Declaration of World War*, which he co-directed with Wakamatsu. Soon after, Adachi joined a splinter cell of the Japanese Red Army in Lebanon, where he stayed from 1974 until he was deported to Japan in 1997 to serve time for passport violations.

Grandrieux's portrait follows Adachi through a twilight Tokyo, with gorgeously underlit, nearly narcotic images reinforcing the mystery of Adachi's steely inner resolve. Adachi's whispered words serve as a dialogue on the notion of art and revolution—for him never a contradiction—and a reflection on the possibilities of film to create both beauty and change.

- Chris Kennedy

Vision Award, Copenhagen International Documentary Film Festival 2011

This is a free screening open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. No Reel Asian box office or ticketing services at the TIFF Bell Lightbox.



Philippe Grandrieux (1954, Saint Étienne) has been inventing new forms of cinema since the 1970s. Along with his experiments in video installation, video essay, narrative, and sound, Grandrieux has created documentaries and programmes for the cultural TV channel Arte. In 1990 he launched 'Live' studio, the film research lab, and has directed three feature films, winning awards at the Locarno Film Festival and the Venice Film Festival.

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reel asian
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



ONCE LOST, NOW FOUND

108 PRAYER BEADS (108 PHRENG RDOG)

RATED G

Presenting meditations on memory and loss, connection and pure joy, these films address some of the most powerful yet peripheral facets of human experience with quiet restraint and creative narratives.

– Tina Zafreen Alam

MAGICAL COINCIDENCE

Keith Lock* | Canada 2012 | 22:00

Two lonely souls are brought together by strange and fateful occurrences. Ostensibly a romantic comedy, the production of this film is unique; using a coin toss to dictate specific creative decisions including writing, casting, and production. Winner of Reel Asian's 2011 *So You Think You Can Pitch?* Competition.

Born in Toronto, **Keith Lock** holds an MFA in Film from York University. He received a Gemini Award nomination for Best Short Drama for *A Brighter Moon* in 1987, as well as Best GTA Filmmaker Award at Reel Asian for *The Dreaming House*. Lock's second feature film, *The Ache* premiered at Reel Asian 2009.

GUANG

Quek Shio Chuan | Malaysia 2011 | 14:00 | Mandarin w/ Eng. sub.

While his younger brother pressures him to find a job, autistic Wen Guang is on a quest of his own for a very special glass. His obsession drives him and derails his brother's good intentions. While his brother's real-world concerns are legitimate, we cannot help but share in Wen Guang's joy when he finally finds what he has been looking for.

Quek Shio Chuan hails from Johor, Malaysia and is a line producer for Reservoir Productions. His short film *Guang* won the 2011 BMW Shorties Grand Prize and awards for screenwriting and sound. The script for *Guang* was inspired by the director's brother, Shio Gai.

OBAKE (GHOSTS)

Christopher Makoto Yogi | USA 2012 | 13:00 | Eng. and Jap. w/ Eng. sub.

In lush Hawai'i, an elderly Japanese man lives out his final days in his country home, as this film weaves in and out of his memories. In dedication to the Nisei and Sansei cultures of Hawai'i, past and present converge on the island's beguiling shores and in the elegant majesty of a single tree. This unconventional ghost story creates a unique, otherworldly feeling all its own.

Christopher Makoto Yogi is a filmmaker born and raised in Honolulu, Hawai'i. He recently graduated with a MFA in Cinematic Arts from USC; his thesis film, *Layover on the Shore* was awarded Best Hawaiian Short at the Big Island Film Festival. In 2009, he participated in the Kyoto Filmmakers Lab.

108 PRAYER BEADS (108 PHRENG RDOG)

Han Han Li | Canada 2012 | 8:20

Chaos and peace, darkness and light, life and death among the dualities cycling through the dynamic animation of *108 Prayer Beads*. Transformation and movement, along with a compelling score, propel the spiritually steeped images through what seems like many other worlds.

Han Han Li completed her BFA in Film Animation at the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema at Concordia University Montreal. She is now pursuing her MFA degree in the department of Film, Video, New Media, and Animation at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

THAT WHICH ONCE WAS

Kimi Takesue* | USA 2011 | 19:50

In the not-so-distant future, eight-year-old Vicente struggles with residual trauma from flooding that has left him homeless and orphaned. Kimi Takesue's beautifully shot and contemplative short explores Vicente's chance meeting and unexpected friendship with ice-carver Siku, who helps him confront memory and closure.

Kimi Takesue's award-winning narrative, documentary and experimental films have screened at over 200 film festivals and museums, including the Sundance Film Festival, International Film Festival Rotterdam, New Directors/ New Films, Los Angeles Film Festival, Locarno International, SXSW, London's Institute of Contemporary Art, Shanghai Museum of Modern Art, the Walker Art Center and the Museum of Modern Art (NYC).

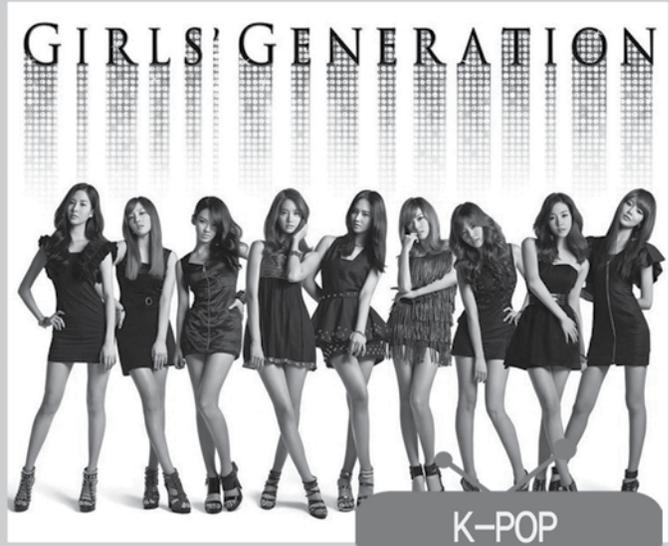
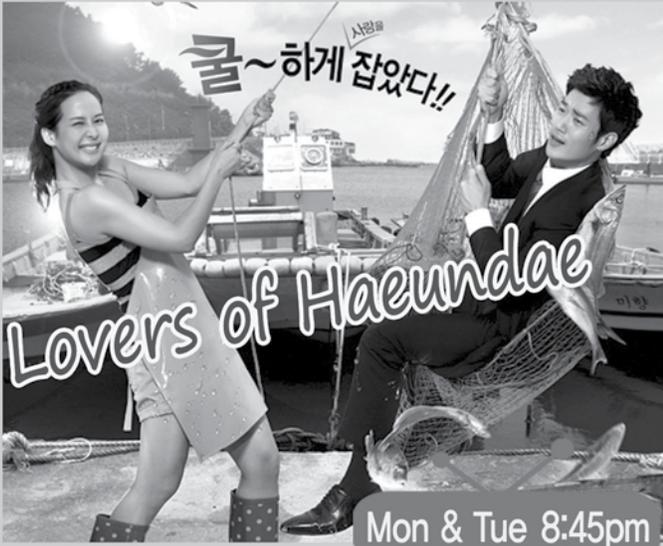
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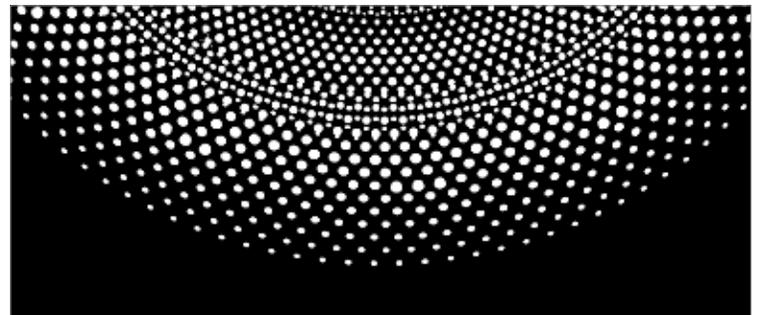
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STATELESS THINGS

줄탁동시

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 18A

Director: Kim Kyung-mook (in attendance) | South Korea 2011 | 115:00 | DCP | Korean w/ English subtitles

Producer: Park Jin-weon | Writer: Kim Kyung-mook | Cinematographer: Kang Kuk-hyun | Editors: Kim Kyung-mook, Shin Ye-jin

Sound: Kim Wan-dong | Music: Lee Min-hee | Cast: Paul Lee, Yeom Hyun-joon, Kim Sae-byuk

Stateless Things is a dark and dreamy parable that tells the story of two disparate, lonely young men trapped both physically and psychologically by their status in the heartless megacity of Seoul. North Korean migrant Jun scrapes by at menial jobs, working at a gas station and handing out flyers. He lives in constant fear because of his illegal status. Meanwhile, rudderless young gay hustler Hyeon is in over his head with no place to go, and is being held hostage emotionally by his very rich and very married older lover.

Busan native Kim Kyung-mook portrays the city of Seoul in a way not often seen—as fragmented and broken, just like Jun and Hyeon. Reflecting the city, *Stateless Things* is structured in separate pieces: Jun inhabits the older, established North Side, while Hyeon resides in the *nouveau riche* South. Crossing over in glimpses, Jun and Hyeon's stories eventually converge in the fateful third act, and the previously distinct narratives come together in tragedy and hope.

Critic, programmer and leading Asian film advocate Tony Rayns noted that, “no director has arrived on the Korean indie scene with more impact than Kim Kyung-mook.” Kim is a true independent whose films address the unseen margins of Korean society in both fiction and documentary genres. *Stateless Things* is a thought-provoking look at how one can escape one's personal prison, and shows Kim's fearless dictum that rules, both in filmmaking and society, are made to be broken.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



Kim Kyung-mook dropped out of school at the age of 16 and moved to Seoul. From 2001 to 2004, under the pen name Kyum, he worked as a journalist and columnist for publications *Hankyoreh* and *Outsider*. In 2004, he began studying film and made his directorial debut with *Me and Doll Playing*. His first feature length film, *Faceless Things*, was completed in 2005 and screened in various prestigious national and international film festivals. Both films have won prizes and accolades. *Stateless Things* is his third feature film.

Official Selection—Venice Film Festival 2011
Official Selection—International Film Festival Rotterdam 2012
Official Selection—Hong Kong International Film Festival 2012

Artist Talk with Kim Kyung-mook

THU NOV 8 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

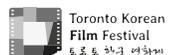
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See page 60 for details.

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Illustrated by Bjoern Arthurs

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IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK

THE LOST YEARS

RATED G

Amateur Sumo wrestling, street dancing friends, a felt turtle and copious cats remind us that stories of the unexpected are everywhere.

– Aram Siu Wai Collier

REAL TALK

Patrick Ng | USA 2011 | 13:00

It's inevitable—friends drift apart. But when your former BFF treats you like a chump, it's time for some 'real talk' from the streets of Manhattan's Two Bridges neighborhood.

Patrick Ng is a graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where he majored in film directing. His thesis film, Real Talk, won the prestigious Wasserman/King Award. Patrick was raised in South Orange, New Jersey and currently lives in Brooklyn, New York.

TENGRI

Alisi Telengut | Canada 2012 | 6:00

This meticulously painted animation reveals a unique traditional Mongolian burial practice.

Alisi Telengut is a student in the animation program at the Concordia Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema.

LITTLE MISS JIHAD

Stephanie Law* and Jessica Wu* | Canada 2012 | 14:00

Afghani Canadian Sally Khan is an average 10-year-old girl who wants to be just like her daddy. But her curious career aspirations lead to paranoia amongst her cul-de-sac community.

Stephanie Law is a Film/TV/Transmedia writer and story editor. She received her BFA Honours in Film Production and Screenwriting from York University, and was recently chosen for the CFTP (Canadian Film and Television Producer's Association) National Production Program. She won Reel Asian's 2011 So You Think You Can Pitch? competition in the Emerging Category.

With a background in social sciences and documentary editing, Jessica Wu has developed a taste and style of the dramatic comedy of life. Little Miss Jihad is her directorial debut.

* Directors in attendance

THE LOST YEARS

Vivienne AuYeung* | Canada 2011 | 2:15

An epic journey from land to sea is depicted through mixed forms of animation using felt and cellophane in this adorable short about never giving up.

Vivienne AuYeung graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design with an MFA in animation, and studied film directing in Prague at the Film and TV School of Academy of Performing Arts.

FRIDAY DIARY

Xiao Yang | Canada 2011 | 9:00

As usual, it's a dark and snowy Friday night in Montreal, and cats are everywhere at the shelter where the filmmaker volunteers every week. Tonight, though, director Yang explores what the noise is coming from upstairs in this documentary about cats, community and thin walls.

Xiao Yang is a Chinese filmmaker based in Montreal, who studied film at Concordia University.

THE SPIRIT OF NIHONMACHI

Greg Masuda | Canada 2012 | 28:00

Vancouver's Downtown Eastside is infamous for crime and poverty. It is also the home of the Powell Street Festival, a cultural event devoted to celebrating and preserving Japanese Canadian culture that also commemorates the city's pre-internment Japanese Canadian community. Through food, music and sumo wrestling, this doc shows the lasting legacy of community on two men who live in the neighbourhood.

Greg Masuda is a documentary filmmaker based in Vancouver. He has participated in a number of National Film Board of Canada development initiatives, been honoured with the Hot Docs TDF Scholarship, attended IDF Academy, and pitched at the 2010 VIFF Storyville Forum.

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DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG

Director: Dave Boyle [in attendance] | USA 2012 | 73:00 | HDCam

Producers: Duane Anderson, Dave Boyle, Michael Lerman | Writers: Dave Boyle, Joel Clark, Michael Lerman, Goh Nakamura | Cinematographer: Bill Otto

Editors: Duane Anderson, Dave Boyle, Michael Lerman | Sound: Curtis Choy | Music: Goh Nakamura, Dreamdate | Cast: Goh Nakamura (in attendance), Yea-Ming Chen, Michael Aki, Ayako Fujitani, Lynn Chen

Official Selection—SXSW Film Festival 2012
Official Selection—San Francisco International
Asian American Film Festival 2012

Daylight Savings sees the team of director David Boyle and actor/musician Goh Nakamura together again with a follow-up to last year's romantic comedy *Surrogate Valentine* where Nakamura reprises his alternate-universe version of himself. In the film, his character (also named Goh) finds that life is no longer imitating art as his suddenly successful life no longer mimics his lovelorn lyrics.

He finds himself as a successful working musician, booking tours, and with a song of his in major rotation (albeit in an unexpected place). Everything seems to be in order; he no longer pines for his longtime crush Rachel (Lynn Chen), and carries on a blissful relationship with Erika (Ayako Fujitani). The only thing amiss is their long-distance relationship, which, as seems to be Goh's fate, turns ugly over a Skype call, ending in a devastating breakup. To get over the heartbreak, Goh's eccentric ex-con cousin Mike (Michael Aki) takes him on a therapeutic road trip to Las Vegas to get Goh's game back. Their romantic target is Yea-Ming (from real-life indie band Dreamdate), a fellow musician who Goh has developed an unexpected connection with. But is he ready to move on from Erika?

Less of a sequel and more of a next chapter, *Daylight Savings* strikes a more dreamy and melancholic tone than the previous film, while still poking fun at the lifestyle of the working musician—full of failures, long car rides and idiosyncratic occurrences that are fast becoming a staple of Boyle's. Yea-Ming Chen is a revelation as the understated and charming potential sweetheart. The chemistry between Nakamura and Yea-Ming is undeniable, and serves as a reminder that seemingly simple moments can be pivotal, and that timing is everything when it comes to love.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



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. Boyle's third feature, *Surrogate Valentine*, played at Reel Asian in 2011.

PRECEDED BY

Requiem for Romance

Jonathan Ng | Canada 2012 | 7:30



In this gorgeous animation awash with vivid brush-strokes and watercolour, a young couple struggles with their relationship by confronting familial and cultural pressures. Their phone conversation is visualized as an epic feud between lovers in ancient China, complete with high-flying rooftop combat and passionate pursuit on horseback.

Jonathan Ng is a Toronto-born, award-winning animation filmmaker based in Montreal. He studied traditional and 3D animation at Sheridan College and Concordia University. Jonathan has worked on various film and network series productions, including *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and *Le Jour des Corneilles*.

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The Art of Learning

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Jackman Hall

FRIDA KAHLO FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

Wednesday, November 21, 7 – 9 pm
Jackman Hall

BROWN BAG LUNCH & TALK: CAMILLE PAGLIA

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Jackman Hall

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UNsung VOICES

RATED PG

Reel Asian proudly presents our inaugural Summer Video Production Workshop, which launched this past summer with a merry band of intrepid youth who possessed little to no formal filmmaking experience but had great stories to tell. After putting their hearts and souls into our unique crash course of mentorship by industry professionals, hands-on exercises and compressed schedules, they produced an impressive collection of short films that include romance, dark thrills, psychological drama, documentary and experimental nuances. Good old-fashioned bonding through teamwork, leadership development and the skill of proper organization were not only critical to their films' success, but will likely aid in all of their future endeavours. While some of them may not have previously thought about filmmaking as a career, we certainly welcome these newly minted auteurs into the ranks of our current generation of promising, young artists.

– Arthur Yeung

CONSCIENCE

Jaewuk J. Kim* | Canada 2012 | 4:30

A psychological thriller that explores the anatomy of struggle with morality.

Jaewuk J. Kim was born in Seoul and is currently studying English and Philosophy at the University of Toronto. He has published poems and short stories and is also a local lyricist/musician. Conscience is his first foray into filmmaking.

SUMAN LADIES

Althea Balmes* | Canada 2012 | 8:20

After contemplating returning to her homeland, a struggling woman executes a plan to solve her problems in the streets of Toronto by using suman, the delicious Filipino rice cake.

Althea Balmes is a York University graduate involved in the Filipino community and its social issues. She produces art in the form of stories and comic books.

SUMMER CHILD

Thila Vijayan* | Canada 2012 | 8:00

A young man chases love from the girl he desires, but knows that he will never receive it from her in return.

Thila Vijayan is a Computer Engineering student from Malaysia currently studying at Ryerson University. Summer Child is his first film.

NEW HOME

Albert Zablan* | Canada 2012 | 12:40

A mother and father adjust to their newly adopted Canadian homeland and deal with challenges common to all immigrants while trying to manage a long-distance relationship with their Filipino children.

Albert Zablan is a first-time filmmaker and a recent graduate of the University of Toronto.

*Directors in attendance

ELUDE

Lisa Qiu* | Canada 2012 | 3:15

Roaming the city streets, a marginalized woman finds herself trying to evade an unknown pursuer, only to be further entrapped by an inescapable reality.

Lisa Qiu is a fourth-year student at University of Toronto studying Political Science and Cinema Studies who never really quite understands what "normal" is. She is always contemplating the aspects of life, and continues to be creative.

CYCLE

Ferdelle Lauren Capistrano* | Canada 2012 | 7:10

Through the lens of love and loss, a reflection on life is set to a dramatic soundtrack. When a girl receives a bicycle from her grandfather, we are taken along on her journey—a ride that she must endure and overcome.

Ferdelle Lauren Capistrano was born and raised in Toronto and graduated from University of Toronto. Driven by aptitude and passion, she has written, directed and starred in two short films and hopes to continue in film and TV.

Post-Screening Reception

THU NOV 8 | 7:30 PM | East Gallery | 334 Dundas St W (across from the AGO)
Free for ticket holders of *Unsung Voices* screening.

Following the world premiere of these films, come celebrate the six young directors of *UNsung VOICES* as we welcome them into the next generation of Asian Canadian storytellers. Light refreshments will be served.

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EGG AND STONE

雞蛋和石頭

Tiger Award Winner, International Film Festival Rotterdam 2012
 Official Selection–Taipei Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection–Vancouver International Film Festival 2012

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 14A

Director: Huang Ji (in attendance) | China 2012 | 100:00 | HD Cam | Mandarin w/English subtitles
 Writer: Huang Ji | Producers: Hsu Hsiao-ming, Otsuka Ryuji | Cinematographer: Otsuka Ryuji | Editor: Otsuka Ryuji
 Sound: Huang Ji | Cast: Yao Hong-gui, Xiao Pin-gao, Liu Xiao-lin

For China's working population, the pull of jobs across the country means that tens of millions of children are left behind in the care of relatives. Ideally, family ties mean these children get the best care from their surrogate parents, yet in Huang Ji's award-winning feature *Egg and Stone*, we see the failings of this situation to devastating effects.

On the surface, Honggui is a typical 14-year-old girl. Sullen and stone-faced, she's been left in the care of her aunt and uncle, who have grown resentful after taking care of her for seven years. Honggui drifts through her days, meeting up with her only friend, Ajiu, a local boy who toils in a quarry and gives her rides on his dirt bike. However, at home in her room, Honggui engages in a nightly ritual that suggests deeper worries than the average teenager should.

Huang's first feature, *Egg and Stone* created buzz at the International Film Festival Rotterdam because of its autobiographical content and its impressive aptitude. Across the board, *Egg and Stone* features finely composed cinematography shot in Huang's hometown, incredible performances by non-actors, and measured storytelling that never turns maudlin or exploitative despite its dark subject matter. This is exquisite filmmaking by a bold new director.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



Born and raised in Hunan Province, China, **Huang Ji** studied screenwriting at the Beijing Film Academy from 2003-2007. In 2009, she directed her first short film, *The Warmth of Orange Peel*, which was selected by the Generation program of the 60th Berlin International Film Festival. *Egg and Stone*, her feature directorial debut, won a Tiger award at its premiere at the 41st International Film Festival Rotterdam.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS





LUNG NEAW VISITS HIS NEIGHBOURS

ลุงนิวไปเยี่ยมเพื่อนบ้าน

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED G

Director: Rirkrit Tiravanija | Mexico/Thailand 2011 | 154:00 | BluRay | Northern Thai w/ English subtitles

Producers: Christian Manzutto and Rirkrit Tiravanija | Cinematographers: Christian Manzutto and Rirkrit Tiravanija | Editor: Christian Manzutto

Sound: Eva Sangiorgi and Chalermrat Kaweewattana | Cast: Neaw

The first feature film from acclaimed Argentinian-born, New York-based visual artist Rirkrit Tiravanija is an exquisitely photographed, minimalist portraiture that skirts the rich territory between documentary and fiction. A nearly plotless, observational encounter, the film follows its eponymous subject as he drifts through the seasons in a small Chiang Mai village. A retired rice farmer, Lung Neaw is a quiet and boyish man who spends his idle days conversing with neighbours, doing odd jobs and walking through the jungle. A fascinating, almost indescribable charge hangs about him; while leading a simple, rural life, his quotidian acts become things imbued with much deeper senses of meaning through the eyes of Tiravanija.

Neaw is a man curiously both timeless and thoroughly modern, both everywhere and invisible, alternately in and out of step with his surroundings. The simplicity of his existence—one of foraging, local routines and solitude—point to larger questions of the self, sustainability and modernity. At the same time, he is a man constantly out of place; pleased to be in the presence of others, but most at ease when alone and drifting/walking—a symbol of the unmoored contemporary world that surrounds him.

Tiravanija's film is a sensual encounter with an individual and environment; through gorgeous super-16mm cinematography and a dense aural landscape, he captures the vitality and complexity of rural existence, and with a patient, deliberate pace creates a remarkable experience of looking and listening.

- Chi-hui Yang



Rirkrit Tiravanija was born in Buenos Aires, in 1961 and is currently based in New York, Berlin and Thailand. Tiravanija's installations and actions provide platforms for artistic, public and private activities—effectively blurring the boundaries that customarily separate them. His projects invite the public to enter into and literally engage with his work; in fact, the active participation of the viewer is necessary for the work to be fully realized.

Official Selection—Venice Film Festival 2011
Official Selection—Copenhagen International
Documentary Film Festival 2011
MOMA: ContemporAsian 2012

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Where's the Result of the PIDC Audit?

By Romy Marquez on page 11



Photos by Rene Sevilla

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GRACELAND

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 14A

Director/ Writer: Ron Morales (in attendance) | USA/Philippines 2012 | 84:00 | BluRay | Tagalog w/English subtitles

Producers: Rebecca Lundgren, Sam Rider | Cinematographer: Sung Rae Cho | Editors: James Lesage, Ron Morales, Jorge Olortegui

Sound: Steve "Major" Giammaria | Music: Adam Schoenberg and Steven Schoenberg | Cast: Arnold Reyes, Menggie Cobarrubias, Dido De Le Paz

Official Selection–Tribeca Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection–Montreal Fantasia Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection–Fantastic Fest Austin 2012

Director Ron Morales, whose previous film, *Santa Mesa*, debuted at Reel Asian in 2009, represents one in an increasing line of Asian American directors choosing to make films in Asia. Transplanting familiar American genres onto new and exciting locations for a broad audience, Morales returns to Reel Asian with this thrilling noir that puts an average man in extraordinary and desperate situations.

Marlon Villar is a pious family man who minds his own business, takes care of his daughter Elvie and visits his bed-ridden wife at the hospital every night. He holds down a day job as a chauffeur for a powerful politician named Chango. Marlon's world rips apart one day when he becomes a target of a botched kidnapping and ransom plot against Chango and his daughter is kidnapped instead of Chango's. As the sole witness, Marlon becomes tangled between the kidnapers and Chango, and must traverse Manila's seedy underground networks of corruption, prostitution and murder in order to get his daughter back before it is too late.

Morales' well-researched film takes us to truly unseemly places, daring to push the limits of where we are willing to let our imagination roam. Yet his intention is never to titillate; instead, he draws us into Marlon's spiraling desperation. An audience favourite at the 2012 Tribeca Film Festival, where it premiered, *Graceland* asks us, how far would we go to save those we love?

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



Having worked in the film industry for more than a decade, Ron Morales has found his voice as a director by blending his love for exciting and unique narratives with an emphasis on expressing well-rounded and naturalistic characters. After receiving a degree in photography from Parson School of Design, Morales continued on to New York University and graduated with a BFA in Film. At the age of 29, Morales directed his award-winning debut feature film, *Santa Mesa* (starring Oscar-winner Melissa Leo), and has gone on to create a number of short films, commercials, and music videos. *Graceland* is his second feature film.

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ESCAPE OR REALITY

RATED G

Want to get away? You may or may not find what you're looking for. These stories show us the potential and pitfalls of escaping from life's impositions.

– Yi Cui

A HAPPY WISH

A HAPPY WISH

Jack Shih | Taiwan 2011 | 12:30

When a tornado hits Taipei City, children are disappearing in a maelstrom of whimsy. A delightful twist on urban woes, *A Happy Wish* follows a little girl's fantasy escape from her regimented life of classrooms and lessons into a fantastical ocean world in the clouds.

Taiwan-based director **Jack Shih** studied experimental animation at CalArts and Computer art at the Pratt Institute. He currently teaches animation and has been working as an independent animation filmmaker for over a decade.

GAINS + LOSSES

Leslie Supnet* | Canada 2011 | 3:30

How do we find the way home in a fleeting world? *Gains + Losses* ruminates over personal, day-to-day anxieties in this delicate and imaginative animation. In this playful yet poignant goodbye letter, Leslie Supnet turns contemplation into poetic blues.

Leslie Supnet's work aims to represent sincerity, lived experience and the multiplicity of human emotion. Her animated and film works have screened at various festivals, including the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, European Media Art Festival, International Film Festival Rotterdam and Image Forum Festival. She was recently awarded the 2012 Winnipeg Arts Council's RBC On the Rise Award.

TRACES OF JOY

Jeff Tran and Louis Yeum | Canada 2012 | 7:00

Two Toronto girls play with an imaginary friend as they attempt to deal with loss.

Jeff Tran initially studied programming at the behest of his Vietnamese parents but could no longer deny his passion for art and filmmaking. He holds a BFA from the University of Waterloo and studied at Sheridan College for Computer Animation. *Louis Yeum* is a 3d/2d Animator from Toronto, Canada. He graduated from Sheridan College's renowned Classical Animation Program, and received his certificate in Computer Animation.

* Directors in attendance

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

Kim Yong-sam | South Korea 2011 | 22:30

Lounging on the roof, break-dancing on the carpet, chatting with the dog, meditating over the first shave. When Mom and Dad are away, Sung Woo is having a dreadfully adventurous day at home.

Kim Yong-Sam was born in 1986 in Dae-Gu, South Korea. He is studying in Media & Visual at Kei-Myeong University. Home Entertainment is his second film.

MOMIJI

Eri Asai* | Canada 2011 | 14:00

Moving from Japan to the snowbound suburbs of Ontario, little Akane tries to understand her new world while her mother struggles with a long-distance relationship. Through her innocent eyes, Momiji brings together dream, memory, fairy tale and reality.

Toronto-based *Eri Asai* is a director, writer and editor who grew up in Japan. Working in experimental and documentary genres, Asai studied film at York University. She is the mother of twin girls.

MAKING NOISE IN SILENCE

Mina T. Son | USA 2011 | 19:00

Navigating an adopted country through sign language is no easy task; Mina T. Son follows two Korean-American high school students at the California School for the Deaf as they wrestle with the complexities of growing up within overlapping Deaf, American and Korean cultures.

Mina T. Son is an award-winning Korean American documentary filmmaker. A recent graduate of the MFA Documentary Program at Stanford University, *Mina* is a two-time Student Academy Award Regional Finalist. Her other awards include Best Short Documentary at the San Diego Asian Film Festival and a CINE Golden Eagle Award.

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PRISON DANCER

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG

Canada | 2012 | 60:00 | HD & Live Performance

Director: Romeo Candido | Producer: Ana Serrano | Writers: Romeo Candido, Carmen De Jesus | Cinematographer: Barry Cheong | Editor: J. Lee Williams | Music: Romeo Candido | Cast: Jeigh Madjus, Mikey Bustos, Catherine Ricafort, Matt Wells, Nicco Lorenzo, Norman Alconcel, Pierre Angelo Bayuga, Joseph Sevillo, Ron Josol

Director, Cast & Crew in attendance

Official Selection—San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival 2012
Outstanding Ensemble Performance, Outstanding Individual Performance, Excellence in
Choreography—Prison Dancer: The Musical, New York Musical Theatre Festival 2012

Inspired by the real-life dancing rehabilitation program that became a worldwide viral sensation on YouTube, *Prison Dancer* tells of the poignant and hilarious stories of six prison dancers whose group dancing turned a maximum security prison into a world stage. Simulated surveillance footage, interviews with inmates, and good old-fashioned investigative journalism blend fact and fiction in this hilarious mockumentary. Behind the prison walls, we meet inmates Ruperto Poblador aka Lola (Jeigh Madjus), who choreographs the first prison dance routines, the prison hustler Hookaps (Norman Alconcel), the prison's resident poet Shakespeare (Nicco Lorenzo) and the prison's newest inmate Christian (Mikey Bustos), to discover a tale of life, death, dreams, fears, and ultimately, redemption.

Prison Dancer has had many forms: as a web series, a stage musical and more. Here at Reel Asian it will be presented as "performative cinema", a one-of-a-kind combination of video, live performance and audience participation you will not see anywhere else. Ultimately, *Prison Dancer* is a great time, carried out by immensely talented people both on-screen and behind the camera, and showcases the amazing talents of its stars, brought together from Broadway, film, recording studios, television and YouTube. Guiding this presentation of *Prison Dancer* is its creative team: writer/director Romeo Candido, writer Carmen De Jesus, and producer Ana Serrano, who together have created a unique experience that defies definition and changes the way we think about performance and media.



An award-winning transmedia producer and creator, **Romeo Candido** directed *Ang Pamana: The Inheritance* (Reel Asian 2007), the first Philippine/Canadian co-production that was released theatrically in the Philippines to critical acclaim. His directorial feature film debut, *Lolo's Child* (Reel Asian 2002), that won the prestigious Ishmael Bernal award at the 2002 CineManila Film Festival...**Carmen De Jesus** has written for film, television, stage, web and mobile web content. She co-wrote the feature length film *Ang Pamana: The Inheritance with Candido*. Carmen and Romeo's collaborations centre around creating artistic projects that elevate Filipino culture and talent, and take modern storytelling to the next level...A three-time Canadian New Media Award-winner, including *Visionary of the Year*, **Ana Serrano** is the Founder of CFC Media Lab, the world-renowned and award-winning institute for interactive storytelling she created in 1997 at the Canadian Film Centre.

Prison Dancer Karaoke Afterparty

FRI NOV 9 | 8:00 PM - 2:00AM

The Monarch Festival Hub | 12 Clinton St

Free | Open to the public

Join us at Reel Asian's new Festival Hub, located at The Monarch just minutes away from The Royal. Join the director, cast and crew of our special transmedia presentation of *Prison Dancer* for a night of free Filipino food and sing-along karaoke. Prizes and surprises, drink specials, and more!

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人民公園

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED G

Directors: Libbie D. Cohn, J.P. Sniadecki [both in attendance] | China/USA 2012 | 78:00 | HD | Sichuanese, Mandarin Chinese

Official Selection—Festival del Film Locarno 2012
Official Selection—Vancouver International Film Festival 2012

A single, uninterrupted shot just shy of 80 minutes meanders through People's Park in the heart of Chengdu, Sichuan province. Elegant and brilliantly composed at every turn, this documentary engages the senses and presents viewers an intimate cross-section of a Chinese urban oasis. Cohn and Sniadecki's virtuosic cinematography is simple yet meticulous: one holds the camera while seated in a wheelchair and the other navigates their pre-determined path through the park. Passing lush lawns, waltzing couples and lounging musicians, *People's Park* does not cease to mesmerize, as viewers are led to stroll along with the crowds in realtime through this microcosm of society.

The site of protests in 1911 that eventually brought down the Qing Dynasty and Chinese Imperial rule, People's Park is now a stage for citizens of all ages and stripes to congregate and daydream, to set their own pace, to coexist in the closely shared social space. The unobtrusive gaze of the camera goes with the flow, meets the eyes of children and nonchalant retirees, captures a vivid array of activities and interactions while the air brims with karaoke tunes, idle conversation, and the casual music of erhus.

Like its many regulars, *People's Park* sets its own pace and challenges the documentary filmmaking's potential for engagement. The immersive power of cinema is mobilized to its fullest, inviting the viewer to participate in a meditative journey and rediscover the feeling of free time. With spontaneous moments of conviviality, *People's Park* takes you through the dynamic range of leisure in the contemporary Chinese city.

-Serena Lee



J.P. Sniadecki is a Michigan native, award-winning filmmaker and founder and curator of Emergent Visions, a film series that promotes new independent cinema from China. Libbie D. Cohn has lived and traveled widely in China since infancy. She studied at Yale University, specializing in film and architecture, as well as history and culture of modern China.

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EXHIBITION AS A GUEST AND HOST

A video loop will be installed in the Monarch Festival Hub for the entire weekend as part of a multi-venue exhibition featuring the work of four contemporary Chinese artists (see p63). Listen in on headphones. Curated by Biljana Ciric and co-presented by Gendai Gallery.

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MONARCH FESTIVAL HUB AFTER HOURS: SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday 8PM: Prison Dancer Karaoke Afterparty | Free | see p30

Saturday 6PM: Rum'n'Roti Lime | \$30 (advance only) | see p43

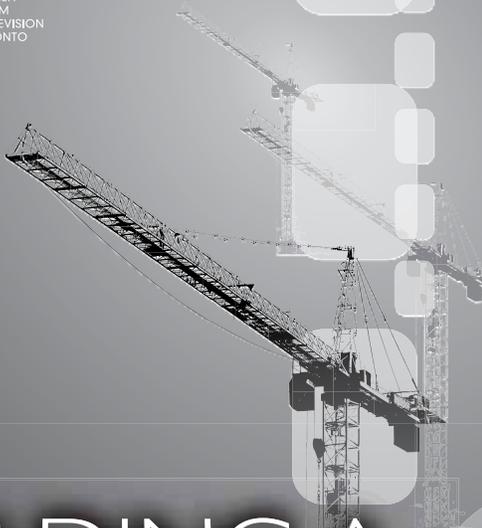
Saturday 8PM: Reel Asian Uke Jam | \$10/PWYC | see p45

Saturday 9:30PM: Live on Four Strings | \$10/PWYC | see p45

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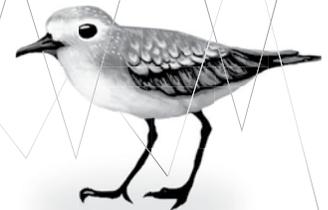
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VALLEY OF SAINTS

وَأَرْپَرَه

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG

Director/Writer: Musa Syeed (in attendance) | Kashmir/USA 2012 | 84:00 | HDCam | Kashmiri w/ English subtitles
 Producer: Nicholas Bruckman | Cinematographer: Yoni Brook | Editor: Musa Syeed
 Music: Mubashir Mohi-ud-Din | Cast: Gulzar Bhat, Neelofar Hamid, Afzal Sofi

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Feature Film Prize, World Cinema Audience Award,
 Sundance Film Festival 2012

Reel Asian is honoured to present the Toronto premiere of director Musa Syeed's Sundance Film Festival multi-winner *Valley of Saints* as the festival's inaugural South Asian feature film. *Valley of Saints* is a lyrically beautiful slice-of-life film with strong performances and lush cinematography that paints an ethereal atmosphere throughout its brief running time.

Dal Lake is widely considered to be the jewel of Kashmir. The lake is a sprawling aquatic community where idyllic life is often disrupted by political unrest that occurs on shore. Gulzar, a young working class boatman, lives with his elderly uncle but longs to escape with his best friend for the bright lights of the big city. When his plans are temporarily thwarted by a military curfew, Gulzar is forced to wait it out, and takes a job assisting Asifa, an attractive young scientist who is in Kashmir to collect water samples for an environmental study. As they navigate the floating landscape collecting samples, an unlikely relationship blossoms between the two that soon causes a rift between Gulzar and his best friend. When Asifa's research reveals harmful pollutants in the water, Gulzar's worldview is shaken as he realizes that his livelihood, as well as his community and its entire way of life, may soon disappear.

Syeed expertly contrasts two different worlds in his film. Life on shore is reality, while life on the lake is almost fantastical—a sanctuary away from the chains of law, greed and other human vices. But through Asifa's scientific discoveries, real life consequences creep into the serene world of the lake. Enlightening and filled with visual splendour, *Valley Of Saints* is a dynamic yet sensitive film about finding one's life path in a changing world.

- Anderson Le

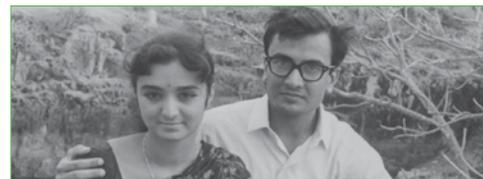


Musa Syeed is an independent filmmaker and writer based in New York City. His debut narrative feature, *Valley of Saints*, premiered at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival. As writer/director, Syeed received the Alfred P. Sloan Feature Film Production Award for his screenplay, a New York Foundation for the Arts fellowship, and a National Geographic All Roads grant. In anticipation of the film, he was named one of the "10 to Watch in 2010" by the Independent Magazine. Syeed's previous work includes *Bronx Princess*, *A Son's Sacrifice*, and *The Calling*.

PRECEDED BY

I am what I ought to be

Ameesha Joshi* | Canada 2012 | 13:00 | MiniDV NTSC



Whirling back to 1969, from Canada to India, through the vibrant colours of old wedding photos, the filmmaker asks her parents to recount the day they were married. Twenty years of estrangement after the end of their arranged marriage, we witness a story of strained love burnished over the years to a deep shine.

- Serena Lee

Ameesha Joshi was born and raised in Toronto, but is now living in Montreal. She is a recent graduate of Concordia Masters Program in Film Production. Her work is often inspired by themes related to her Indian heritage, and she is currently working as a co-director on her first feature, *With this Ring*, about the Indian women's boxing team.

*Director in attendance

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Best Documentary, Taipei Golden Horse Award 2011
Grand Prize, Best Director, Best Documentary, Taipei Film Festival 2012

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED G

Director: Yao Hung-I | Taiwan/China 2011 | 72:00 | BluRay | Mandarin w/ English Subtitles

Producer: Hou Hsiao-hsien | Cinematographer: Yao Hung-yi | Editor: Yao Hung-yi

Music: Lim Giong | Featuring: Liu Xiaodong

Regarded as one of China's most respected artists, Liu Xiaodong has worked alongside Jia Zhang-ke and Zhang Yimou and considers auteurs Yao Hung-I and Hou Hsiao-hsien amongst his old friends. Following his journey to his hometown of Jincheng, in Liaoning Province, to paint portraits of his childhood friends in their everyday environment, Liu pronounced, "time is the greatest art of all". Indeed, when faced with the familiar yet disappearing landscape of his childhood memories—rolling green hills; winding rivers and dusty roads; luminous train rides; humble, quotidian work brings the artist to confront a complex and contradictory range of emotions and revelations. Not only have economic development and the passage of time changed the landscape of his rural home, but the faces of the people he grew up with.

With vivid images and studied composition, the brilliant cinematography is as painterly as Liu's paintings are cinematic, situating the artist and his own artistic process within each frame. Through the artist's humorous diary entries and personal illustrations, *Hometown Boy* offers lyrical vignettes of a deeply rich and complex visual and oral art history.

- Aliza Ma



Since 1994, Yao Hung-I has worked at 3H Productions, the company of acclaimed Taiwanese director Hou Hsiao-hsien. Yao has worked on many of Hou's films, and on many shorts and commercials as director and cinematographer. In 2005, his award-winning debut feature film, *Reflections*, showed at film festivals worldwide.

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TATSUMI

辰巳

Official Selection—Cannes 2011
Official Selection—International Film Festival Rotterdam 2012

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 18A

Director: Eric Khoo | Singapore 2011 | 98:00 | HDCam | Japanese w/ English subtitles

Producers: Tan Fong Cheng, Phil Mitchell, Freddie Yeo, Eric Khoo | Screenplay: Eric Khoo, based on works by Tatsumi Yasuhiro | Editor: Taufik Ramadhan

Sound Design: Kazz | Music: Christopher Khoo, Christine Sham | Cast: Bessho Tetsuya, Tatsumi Yasuhiro

Hailed by the New York Times as “one of Japan’s most important visual artists” with work translated into 17 languages Yasuhiro Tatsumi is a living legend—a manga pioneer and inventor of *gekiga*, a style of dark adult-themed comics that saw their advent in postwar Japan. The mature stories and bleak visuals of this manga style elevated the comic form from being the purview of children’s stories to a legitimate art form where mature themes could be explored. Like his literary contemporaries, Tatsumi’s stories reflected the major anxieties and alienation of regular people in fast-changing post-war Japan.

Eric Khoo was first introduced to the works of Tatsumi during his military service and was captivated by the sadness and beauty of the stories. It was only when autobiographical manga *A Drifting Life* was published did Khoo discover Tatsumi was still alive and decided to pay tribute to the legendary artist by creating a film based on his life and work. Khoo lovingly strives to make the original work shine and reflect Tatsumi’s original character, and does so to great effect. Lifting Tatsumi’s arresting images from the page and putting them on the big screen, he strikes a balance between loyal reproduction and new rendition. Tatsumi’s fascinating and sinister short stories get cinematic treatment, as do the biographical elements about Tatsumi’s life. This animated biography is a real treat for Tatsumi’s admirers and those not familiar with his work are sure to become fans after seeing Khoo’s faithful tribute.

—Aram Siu Wai Collier



Eric Khoo put Singapore on the international film map with his first feature Mee Pok Man (1995), picking up prizes at Fukuoka, Pusan and Singapore. His second feature 12 Storeys (1997) was the first Singaporean film to be invited officially to participate in the Cannes Film Festival. Mee Pok Man and 12 Storeys have together been screened at over 60 film festivals. Khoo’s third feature Be With Me was selected as the opening film for the Directors’ Fortnight in Cannes 2005. Khoo is a recipient of Singapore’s highest arts honor: the Cultural Medallion by the President, and in 2008, he was awarded the “Chevalier de l’ordre des arts et des lettres” from the French Minister of Culture.

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A FISH 물고기

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG

Writer / Director: Park Hong-min [in attendance] | South Korea 2011 | 97:00 | Real D 3D | Korean w/ English Subtitles
 Producer: Choi Sung-won | Cinematographer: Choi Sung-won | Stereographer: Nam Jin-ah | Editor: Lee Gang-hee
 Music: Oh Su-jin | Cast: Lee Jang-hoon, Kim Sun-bin, Choi So-eun, Park No-sik, Kwon Yong-hwan

Tiger Award Nominee, International Film Festival Rotterdam 2012
 Official Selection—Busan International Film Festival 2011
 Official Selection—BFI London Film Festival 2012

Often when we go to a multiplex theatre we're faced with a choice, "Should I see the most recent blockbuster in 3D or save the extra couple bucks?" and we are left with varying results. Eschewing that trend is Park Hong-min's *A Fish*, a stimulating independent 3D film that uses technology to amplify its story rather than as a marketing ploy.

Jeon-hyuk is a professor who has hired a private detective to find his missing wife. The investigation leads him to Jindo Island, where his wife is rumored to have become a *mudang* (female shaman)—a medium between the human and spirit worlds. In his search for his wife, Jeon-hyuk tries to unravel the mystery of her disappearance while navigating the strange island town she has supposedly settled in.

In *A Fish*, director Park explores the relationship between our world and the world of the spirits through his labyrinthine narrative and existential interstitials. Boats, and the islands of Jindo, are the meeting places of these worlds, represented by the land and the sea. It is Park's use of the 3D medium, however, that makes the film unique. Though *A Fish* employs some of the requisite 3D tricks we've come to expect, Park specifically uses the format to convey a sense of the uncanny, to give us a gateway to an exploration of the spirit world. Shot on a slim budget but skillfully incorporating modern technology, this exciting film begins to scratch the surface of what is possible with 3D cinema—that it can help drive narrative storytelling to new heights instead of being a mere sideshow.

—Aram Siu Wai Collier



Park Hong-min is currently at the Graduate School of Digital Image and Contents, Dongguk University in Korea. He received a B.A. from Hallim University and graduated summa cum laude from Dongah Institute of Media and Arts in film directing. A Fish is Park's first feature and was the first 3D film in competition for the International Film Festival Rotterdam Tiger Award in 2012.

A limited number of fish-shaped red bean cakes (붕어빵) will be served courtesy of Arirang Korea TV.



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SAT NOV 10 | 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
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Moderated by: Ali Kazimi (3D Flic)

With: Park Hong-min

See page 61 for more details.

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THE MIRROR NEVER LIES

LAUT BERGERMIN

Earth Grand Prix, Tokyo International Film Festival 2011
FIPRESCI Prize, Hong Kong International Film Festival 2012

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG

Director: Kamila Andini | Indonesia 2011 | 100:00 | 35mm | Indonesian w/ English subtitles

Producers: Garin Nugroho, Nadine Chandrawinata, Wiwid Setya, Gita Fara | Writers: Dirmawan Hatta, Kamila Andini

Cinematographer: Rahmat "Ipung" Syaiful | Editor: Wawan I. Wibowo | Sound: Sutrisno, Khikmawan Santosa | Music: Thoersi Argeswara

Cast: Gita Novalista, Atiqah Hasiholan, Reza Rahadian, Eko

In the picturesque Wakatobi Archipelago of Indonesia live the Bajo, a formerly nomadic people who live in houses built on coral reefs and whose livelihood revolves around the ocean. The daughter of famed Indonesian director Garin Nugroho, Kamila Andini's first feature film *The Mirror Never Lies* gives us a look into Bajo culture and community through this beautiful coming-of-age story about a girl whose world is opened up by tragedy.

Moody and insolent, Pakis (played by newcomer Gita Novalista) is a 12-year-old girl shaken by her father's disappearance at sea. Pakis desperately hopes for her father's return, wearing a mirror she is told will reveal him to her. Resigned to her husband's fate, Pakis' face-mask wearing mother Tayung (Atiqah Hasiholan) must balance her mourning with keeping the family afloat as a newly-single parent. Pakis and Tayung's relationship is disrupted by the arrival of an urbanite scientist (Reza Rahadian), who boards with the family while researching the local marine ecology. Pakis' only solace lies in her friendship with rascal neighbour boy Lumo (the adorable Eko) who has big dreams of escaping their small village for the big city.

World-renowned for its breathtaking scenery by tourists and sea divers, the Wakatobi Archipelago is featured with stunning cinematography. However, Andini reaches beneath the beauty of the region, crafting a nuanced tale about the tenuous relationships between sea and community, mother and daughter, and life and death. Andini's use of young non-actors Novalista and Eko with professional actors Hasiholan and Rahadian is seamless and natural. Andini's debut feature tells a universal story for all ages about finding one's way when most lost.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



Born in Jakarta, Kamila Andini started out as a diver and photographer. She studied Sociology and Media Arts in Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia and began her professional career as a filmmaker making documentaries for WWF and Coremap about environmental subjects such as sea turtles and coral. Andini is now working on her second feature film, titled The Seen and Unseen.

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DAL PURI DIASPORA

Official Selection—Trinidad + Tobago Film Festival 2012

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE | RATED G

Writer / Director: Richard Fung [in attendance] | Canada 2012 | 80:00 | HDCam | English and Bhujpuri w/ English subtitle

Camera: Richard Fung | Editor: Dennis Day | Score and Sound design: Phil Strong

A warm bite of roti in Toronto's Parkdale amidst mounds of snow is one step towards finding a taste of home, but neither taste nor home are easily defined or traced. In this mouth-watering documentary, the origins of *dal puri*, or roti as it is known locally, leads Toronto-based filmmaker Richard Fung across oceans from his native Trinidad to the Indian Subcontinent to explore the interwoven histories of peoples and palates.

In his quest for the original *dal puri*, Fung interviews restaurateurs, foodies, scholars and locally renowned chefs in South Asia and the Caribbean. We catch tantalizing glimpses of flour-caked hands expertly rolling, kneading and stuffing the flatbread in its multiple succulent variations. From the *dal puri* of Bihar to the Trinidadian specialty named after its resemblance to a "busted-up shirt," every name for roti reveals a different history.

For centuries, *dal puri* has been shared, altered and blended, mirroring the mélange of regional customs and dialects that thrive throughout South Asia and have been transplanted across the Atlantic. "The rivers flow and we have not been able to stem the flow of the rivers. There is no divide in terms of palate," says Pushpesh Pant, an Indian food historian. Uncovering histories of colonialism, trade and immigration, *Dal Puri Diaspora* is a fascinating survey of regional specialties and cultural specificities. From sidewalk eateries and spice factories to home kitchens, Fung explores the mutability of borders when identity is considered through cuisine and the deliciously complex world of roti.

- Serena Lee



Born in Trinidad and Tobago, Richard Fung is now based in Toronto. His award-winning videos include the auto-ethnographic works *My Mother's Place* (1990) and *Sea in the Blood* (2000); explorations on queer sexualities such as *Dirty Laundry* (1996) and *Rex vs. Singh* (2008) (co-directed with John Greyson and Ali Kazimi); and politically charged issues including police racism in *Out of the Blue*, and *Israel/Palestine in Jihad in Motion*. He is a recipient of the Toronto Arts Award for Media Art. A former Rockefeller Fellow, Richard teaches at OCAD University.

Rum'n'Roti Lime

SAT NOV 10 | 6:00 PM - 8:00PM

The Monarch Festival Hub | 12 Clinton St

\$30 (includes film tickets) | Advance sales only

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Exclusively for purchasers of the Rum'n'Roti film-and-party package, this after-party hangout (a "lime" in Trinidadian slang) includes an edible souvenir roti, wrapped in an original piece of art and a welcome cocktail. The package includes tickets and reserved seats to the preceding screening of *Dal Puri Diaspora*. Come relax to island sounds and enjoy island foods. Limited tickets available.



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JAKE SHIMABUKURO: LIFE ON FOUR STRINGS

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED G

Director: Tadashi Nakamura [in attendance] | USA 2012 | 55 min | HDCam
 Producer: Donald Young | Cinematography: Jim Choi, Ka'alue Anthony, Tadashi Nakamura
 Editor: Tadashi Nakamura | Sound: Adriano Bravo | Music: Jake Shimabukuro

The ukulele is a four stringed instrument with a limited range that conjures up images of Hawai'ian kitsch to most Mainlanders. But for Japanese Hawai'ian ukulele pioneer Jake Shimabukuro the instrument is much more. By playing rock, blues, jazz, and even traditional Japanese music, Shimabukuro unleashes the ukulele's dynamic power, creating sounds not normally associated with the instrument. Make no mistake—Jake is a ukulele virtuoso, as innovative and identifiable with his instrument as musical innovators like Jimi Hendrix or Yo Yo Ma are with theirs.

With the instrument that carried him through difficult days for his family and provided an outlet to make connections to people across the globe, Jake performs at gala-priced solo shows at concert halls to cozier events for children and seniors. He's developed a loyal following and growing fan base because of his message that although "life isn't always perfect, it can feel perfect" through music.

Tadashi Nakamura's feature documentary debut fulfills the promise of his short documentaries *Yellow Brotherhood*, *Pilgrimage*, and *A Song For Ourselves*, (Reel Asian 2005, 2007 and 2009 respectively) by continuing his focus on the formative role of family, friendship and community balanced with slick visuals and kick ass music. Nakamura deftly uses archival photos and home movies that familiarize us with Jake and his personal and musical journey. From his modest upbringing in a single parent home to his questionable teenage 1990's style choices, we feel as if Jake is someone we grew up with. You will want to pick up a "uke" and start jamming with him.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



Los Angeles-based filmmaker Tadashi Nakamura was named one of CNN's "Young People Who Rock" for being the youngest filmmaker at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival. Nakamura's trilogy of documentary films on the Japanese American experience, *Yellow Brotherhood* (2003), *Pilgrimage* (2007) and *A Song for Ourselves* (2009) have garnered over 20 awards at film festivals around the world. In the words of film scholar B. Ruby Rich, "Nakamura takes the joy of activism and makes it downright contagious!"

This screening will be preceded by a live performance by Adrienne Chan, a Toronto-based Chinese Canadian ukulele musician. Performance produced by torontoUKES & Corktown Ukulele Jam.

Reel Asian Uke Jam

SAT NOV 10 | 8:00 PM - 9:30PM
 The Monarch Festival Hub | 12 Clinton St
 \$10 suggested donation / PWYC

Following the Canadian premiere of *Jake Shimabukuro: Life on Four Strings*, join torontoUKES & Corktown Ukulele Jam for a special edition of their "uke jams" - a live teach-in on the basics of ukulele technique. After watching the film, you'll want to pick up and play and there's no better way to learn than from Toronto's diverse and welcoming ukulele community.

Live on Four Strings

SAT NOV 10 | 9:30 PM - 2:00AM
 The Monarch Festival Hub | 12 Clinton St
 \$10 suggested donation / PWYC

TorontoUKES & Corktown Ukulele Jam program our annual live music showcase with a slate of performances headlined by local ukulele prodigy Adrienne Chan. Chan personifies everything that Shimabukuro is about: musicality, hard work, perseverance, tenacity and flair. Her accomplishments have been directly influenced by how he represents these qualities. Reel Asian is proud to join torontoUKES in supporting the presence of this caliber of influence within our communities.

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PAN ASIAN ZENSATION



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WOLF CHILDREN

おおかみこどもの雨と雪

Official Selection—BFI London Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection—Hawaii International Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection—Reel Anime 2012

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG

Director: Mamoru Hosoda | Japan 2012 | 117:00 | 35mm | Japanese w/ English Subtitles

Producers: Yuichiro Saito, Takuya Ito, Takashi Watanabe | Writers: Satoko Okudera, Mamoru Hosoda | Character Design: Yoshiyuki Sadamoto

Music: Masakatsu Takagi | Animation Direction: Takaaki Yamashita | Cast: Aoi Miyazaki, Takao Osawa, Haru Kuroki, Momoko Oono, Yukito Nishii, Amon Kabe

From director Mamoru Hosoda (*The Girl Who Leapt Through Time* and *Summer Wars*) comes his latest masterpiece. Hana, a nineteen-year-old college student, falls in love with a man, only to discover his secret: he is a direct descendent of the Japanese wolf. Nevertheless, they are in love, so they build a life together and bear two children: a son and daughter named Ame (Rain) and Yuki (Snow). Both children inherit lycan powers from their father and are able to vacillate between wolf and human forms.

One night, the wolf father dies in an accident, while on the hunt to feed his children. Without their father to teach them control of their wolf powers, Hana makes a life-changing decision to take her children and live in isolation, moving to a rural town to raise her children in seclusion. Ame and Yuki suffer growing pains in their new environment, but soon must make a difficult life choice of their own: to lead a life as either a human or a wolf.

Regarded by many as the heir apparent to Hayao Miyazaki (*Spirited Away*, *My Neighbor Totoro*), Mamoru Hosoda extends his lineage of humanistic stories with fantastical elements. With *The Wolf Children*, the universal themes of family, coming-of-age, adolescence and bereavement are explored in a realistic and touching way. The theme of nature versus nurture, especially when it comes to the wolf children themselves, run parallel to their mother's story. Ame leans towards his wolf spirit with the forest surrounding him as a perfect home, while Yuki soon makes friends in school and gravitates to a conventional life. Between them, Hana struggles to cope as she preserves her family's legacy and clings to the memory of her late husband. *The Wolf Children* is an enchanting film for all ages, with a strong ecological message.

- Anderson Le



After gaining experience as an animator, Mamoru Hosoda switched fields and became a director. He released *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time* in 2006 with which he won numerous awards, including Animation of the Year at the Japan Academy Prizes, Special Distinction for Feature Film at the Annecy International Animated Film Festival, and the Gertie Award for the best animated feature film at the Sitges International Film Festival of Catalonia. His next film *Summer Wars* was awarded various prizes and was nominated for a 2011 Annie Award for Best Director.

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with Antony Robart & Rosey Edeh



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GOLD STEEL

遍地狼煙

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 18A

Director: David Wu Tai-wai (in attendance) | China/Hong Kong 2011 | 101:00 | 35mm | Mandarin w/ English Subtitles
 Producer: He Qing | Writers: David Wu Tai-wai, Li Xiao-Min | Cinematography: Horae Wong | Editor: David Wu Tai-wai
 Music: Lawrence Shragge | Cast: Peter Ho Yun Tung, Tony Leung Ka Fei, Song Jia

Legendary Action Excellence Award: David Wu, Fantastic Fest Austin 2012
 Official Selection—Montreal Fantasia Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection—Palm Springs International Film Festival 2012

Attention action film fans! David Wu, longtime collaborator of John Woo and editor of classics like *A Better Tomorrow* and *Hard Boiled*, presents *Cold Steel*, a Chinese war epic, after 17 years of directing TV series in North America. Bomb blasting *Cold Steel* is packed with suspense and choreographed with jaw-dropping action sequences. While the Shaw Brothers classics are infamous for their “lost-in-translation” subtitles, director Wu, who also penned the screenplay in Chinese, opted to work on the entire subtitling process and has included fun-filled North American slang and wise-cracks in the translated dialogue. For the first time, North American audience can finally laugh with, and not laugh at the subtitles!

American-born, Canadian-raised and Taiwanese-based singer/actor (and OCAD graduate) Peter Ho excels in the lead role as the coming-of-age hunter-turned-sniper Lianfeng, torn between his duty and honour under the guidance of his mentor, Mengzi (Tony Leung Ka Fai), and the irresistible widow with heart of gold Yan (Song Jia), who teaches Lianfeng about love and heartbreak. Wu employed a fluid editing technique optimizing the pace to showcase Lianfeng’s struggle, leading the audience through his personal journey of life-threatening crisis as well as life-altering commitments. Highly-strung, awesome visual effects are balanced by romantic illustrations swathed in a soul-stirring soundtrack to evoke the perfect blend of tragedy and fantasy against the cruel backdrop of war.

- Alice Shih



David Wu Tai-wai is a prolific director, editor, producer, actor and writer who first established his name as a creative force in his native Hong Kong before bringing his impressive talents to the North American film and television industry. Wu has teamed with long-time collaborator John Woo on action classics including A Better Tomorrow, The Killer and Hard Boiled and Woo's television series t, as both editor and director. A favourite among Chinese audiences, Wu directed and co-wrote the fantasy romance, The Bride with White Hair 2. Recently, he has helmed many TV series and directed and edited Plague City, a CTV feature movie about the SARS epidemic in Toronto, for which he was nominated for Best Director at the 2006 DGC Awards.

Master Class with David Wu

FRI NOV 9 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
No One Writes to the Colonel (460 College St)
 FREE | Open to public
 See page 60 for details.

Co-Productions: Asian & North America

SAT NOV 10 | 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM | Venue TBA
 For Industry and Festival Passholders only

Join Director David Wu for a panel on co-productions.
 See page 61 for details.

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SEEKING ASIAN FEMALE

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED 14A

Director: Debbie Lum | USA 2012 | 85:00 | HDCam | English and Mandarin w/ English subtitles

Producer: Debbie Lum | Writers: Debbie Lum, Tina Nguyen, Amy Ferraris | Cinematographer: Debbie Lum | Editor: Tina Nguyen | Music: Gordy Haab

Steven is a white male, twice-divorced and in his early 60s who fantasizes about having a sweet, subservient Asian bride; a "nightmare" for our narrator, Chinese-American filmmaker Debbie Lum, and an inflammatory subject at best. But after meeting Steven, Debbie decides his "yellow fever" is maybe the perfect subject for a documentary exposé of cultural stereotyping —until his fantasy comes true when Steven meets Sandy online who is a 30-year-old woman from Shenzhen, China. Expectations are overturned and misunderstanding reigns when Sandy leaves China for the first time and lands in California to marry Steven. With a healthy dose of skepticism and humour, *Seeking Asian Female* tells the universal yet specific story of marriage and the battle of the sexes, while wading the murky waters of documentary ethics.

Without a green card, Sandy is house-bound but she is far from the docile mate Steven expected. Following Steven and Sandy through the rocky beginnings of their relationship, Debbie is thrown into the middle of their bizarre union to translate with her college-learned Mandarin, and must challenge her own perspective and bias. Steven and Sandy establish an erratic bond and fragile trust that is tested daily, while Debbie asks herself if she has gone too far in steering their marriage for her lens. Bridging the gap between cultures is a position that mirrors the cross-cultural complexities of her own history: growing up Chinese American. Cleverly eschewing a sensationalist or exploitative approach, Debbie Lum navigates provocative ground with wit and empathy. Intimate and candidly quirky, *Seeking Asian Female* is ultimately a three-voiced story of dismantling stereotypes and building cultural sensitivity, that translates the complexities of globalization into a personal tale of compassion.

- Serena Lee

Best Director, Documentary, Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection-SXSW Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection-Silverdocs 2012
 Official Selection-Vancouver International Film Festival 2012



Debbie Lum is a San Francisco-based filmmaker. Lum has worked as an editor and producer on many award-winning documentary and fiction films. Seeking Asian Female is her feature-length directing debut. She recently completed the PBS Producer's Academy, holds an M.F.A. in Cinema from San Francisco State University and a B.A. in Religious Studies from Brown University.

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HARD LOOK

RATED 14A

From the full frontal stare of an unbatting, mascara-laced eye to the dispassionate gaze of a child who has seen it all, these films consider fallen heroes and arrested dreams. The stirring complexity of these films raises the bar and questions what it means to measure up.

– Serena Lee

BROTHERS

A+

*Nobu Adilman** | Canada 2012 | 6:00

Cinema's heavyweights are graded according to strange tides in this unorthodox list.

Toronto-based artist Nobu Adilman works in television, film, music, journalism, podcasting and web interactive. To celebrate the opening of the TIFF Bell Lightbox, he produced and directed the short documentary Starting Over: The Legacy of Leslie and Clara Reitman, and most recently founded choir! choir! choir!

MY GRANDPA

*Eui Yong Zong** | Canada 2011 | 10:11 | Korean w/ Eng. sub.

Shooting with an unwavering lens, Eui Yong Zong confronts his family about his grandfather, a patriarch who was abandoned by his parents, failed in business and was a narcissistic pessimist. His death prompted no mourning in his children but served as an unlikely childhood inspiration to the filmmaker.

Born in South Korea and raised in Northern China, Eui Yong Zong moved to Canada at the age of 16. Yong was a recipient of 2011 Allan King Memorial Prize for his short film.

LACK OF EVIDENCE (MANQUE DE PREUVES)

Hayoun Kwon | France 2011 | 9:20 | French w/ Eng. subtitles

Lack of Evidence retraces the escape of a Nigerian child from a ritual killing at the hands of his father, who believes his twin sons are cursed. In this testimony reconstructed through hauntingly beautiful animation and voice-over, we follow the journey of the surviving twin who escapes to Europe where he must face bureaucratic asylum procedures that demand proof where there is none.

Born in Seoul in 1981, Hayoun Kwon studied at the studio Le Fresnoy - National Studio of Contemporary Arts in France. Hayoun explores the story of her home country and the difficult and complex relationships it has been maintaining with Japan.

* Directors in attendance

TRANSIAM

Wesley Cho | South Korea 2011 | 22:14 | Thai w/ Eng. subtitles

Surrounded by hedonistic glamour and perilous sexual politics in a society that will not officially recognize their identities, four Thai transsexuals describe living and working as "Ladyboys" in Bangkok and Pattaya. Whether their hearts are set on tiaras or acceptance by family members, the stakes are high in this compelling and candid documentary.

Wesley Cho was born in 1981 in Seoul. He grew up in Canada and graduated from Chung-Ang University in 2006, majoring in Film and Theatre. He is currently studying for his PhD in Film & Visual at Dong-Guk University.

BROTHERS

Lou Nakasako | USA 2011 | 11:24

Growing up on the gritty streets of Los Angeles, Song has always received the good grades, sitting shotgun to his reckless older brother, Gai Daan. With one mistake threatening to topple his dreams of collegiate success, Song learns through Gai Daan that honour is a complicated family affair and not a simple distinction of good and bad.

Lou Nakasako hails from San Francisco and holds a BA in Film and Television from the University of California, Los Angeles.

ME LLAMO PENG (MY NAME IS PENG)

Victoria Molina de Carranza & Jahel José Guerra Roa
Spain 2010 | 28:19 | Mandarin w/ Eng. sub.

Peng stares into his camcorder and with his down-to-earth charm draws the viewer into the unsentimental world of a Chinese immigrant drifting through Europe. Blurring the distinctions of autobiography and fiction, and amassed from years of working factory and restaurant jobs, this video-diary archives the day-to-day victories of an outsider's survival.

Victoria Molina de Carranza was born in Málaga, Spain, and has collaborated as a producer, screenwriter and actress in several shorts. Jahel José Guerra Roa hails from Falcón, Venezuela but has lived in the United States, France and Barcelona, where she met Peng. This encounter resulted in de Carranza and Roa's first documentary, produced while studying at the UAB.

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10+10 十加十

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED PG

Taiwan 2011 | 115:00 | DCP | Mandarin w/ English Subtitles

Directors: Wang Toon (*The Ritual*); Shen Ko-Shang (*Bus Odyssey*); Chu Yen-ping (*The Orphans*); Ho Wi-ding (*100*); Wu Nieh-jen (*A Grocery Called Forever*); Wang Shaudi (*Destined Eruption*); Chen Kuo-fu (*The Debut*); Hou Chi-jan (*Green Island Serenade*); Wei Te-sheng (*Debut*); Chen Yu-hsun (*Hippocamp Hair Salon*); Chang Tso-chi (*Sparkles*); Leon Dai (*Key*); Cheng Wen-tang (*Old Man & Me*); Sylvia Chang (*The Dusk of the Gods*); Cheng Yu-chieh (*Unwritten Rules*); Chung Mong-hung (*Reverberation*); Yang Ya-che (*The Singing Boy*); Hsiao Ya-chuan (*Something's Gotta Give*); Arvin Chen (*Lane 256*); Hou Hsiao-Hsien (*La Belle Epoque*)

Official Selection—Berlin International Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection—Hong Kong International Film Festival 2012
 Official Selection—New York Asian Film Festival 2012

This omnibus presentation is an adroit collection of 20 short films, each five minutes in length, made by 10 internationally renowned filmmakers plus ten up-and-coming auteurs to commemorate the 100th anniversary and to highlight the uniqueness of Taiwan. Initiated by the Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival, the result is a series of scintillating journeys through exuberant landscapes—by train, bus and on foot—painting a comprehensive portrait of the post-New Wave(s) filmmaking milieu.

With varied approaches to form and aesthetic (ranging from *arte povera* to meditative mood pieces, *vérité* to genre-bending exercises), the omnibus is a palette of contrasts: between the shimmering warm light awash in mountain mist and the cool neon gleam off the alleyways in the city nights, the sumptuousness of '60s glamour and trepid war-torn *mise-en-scènes*, restrained black-and-white and luscious colour. It is a bridge between the old and new: young director Hou Chi-jan's *Green Island Serenade* recreates a historical studio recording session by a famed Chinese singer; prolific filmmaker Wang Toon nods to both Edward Yang and the encroachment of 3D cinema culture in a story about a visit to a shrine; Hou Hsiao-Hsien's *La Belle Epoque*, with Shu Qi, could almost be an epilogue to Vicky's story from *Millennium Mambo* (2001). Ranging from thriller to silent cinema to dark comedy, what transpires is a dynamic crossroad between powerful personal histories and multifaceted identities.

- Aliza Ma

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ARCHITECTURE 101

건축학개론

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG

Director: Lee Yong-joo (in attendance) | South Korea | 2012 | 115:00 | DCP | Korean w/ English Subtitles
 Producer: Kim Kyun-hee | Writer: Lee Yong-joo | Cinematographer: Jo Sang-yoon
 Cast: Han Ga-in, Uhm Tae-wong, Bae Su-ji, Lee Je-hoon

Best New Actress, Bae Su-ji, Baeksung Awards 2012
 Official Selection-Shanghai International Film Festival 2012

Ever wondered what happened to your first love from years ago? Of course you have. Whether your method is searching Facebook and Google or asking old friends, indulging curiosity about that first flame is near irresistible. In South Korea, the notion of *chot sarang*, or 'first love', has been elevated to a cultural fascination and is the subject of many popular films and TV dramas. But of these, the Korean box office hit *Architecture 101*, with its star-studded cast and pitch-perfect tone, is sure to be a classic.

Seung-min (Uhm Tae-wong) is a weary thirtysomething architect in a major firm who is visited by a beautiful and wealthy woman who insists he build her a new house. The woman is revealed to be Seo-yeon (Han Ga-in), Seung-min's classmate (and, of course, his secret first love) from their first year university architecture class. As Seung-min reacquaints himself with Seo-yeon in an effort to design her the perfect house, we are taken back to when the two first met as young university students (played by Lee Je-hoon (*Bleak Night*) and Bae Su-ji (from pop group Miss A)) as we learn what transpired between the two so long ago.

Writer and director Lee Yong-joo, himself a student of architecture in university, has cleverly crafted a film based on themes relating to architecture: our relationship to time, place and other people. The film also mines 1990s nostalgia through witty references to Korean pop music, fashion and computers and features the faded, postcard-pretty images that often colour our memories. However, their amber tones obscure the fact that sometimes the memories of our first love can be painful. *Architecture 101* hits all the notes, high and low, that we expect from a *chot sarang* Korean drama and will rekindle thoughts about loved ones from your past.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



After gaining experience under director Bong Joon-ho in *Memories of Murder*, Lee Yong-joo worked as a scriptwriter. His directorial debut, the horror film *Possessed*, received international attention with its fresh take and unique narrative structure. Lee returns with his second film, *Architecture 101*, in which he incorporates his knowledge and experience acquired from studying and working in the field of architecture into his career as filmmaker and auteur.

Closing Night Party

Sun Nov 11 | 10:30 PM - 2:00 AM
 Bar Italia | 582 College St
 \$10 | Free with Closing Night ticket stub

Following the awards presentation and closing night screening of *Architecture 101*, follow us a few steps down the street to our wrap-up party, where the DJs from Pop! Goes the World will spin KPop & JPop video mash-ups to close out our sweet 16th year with a celebration to remember!



The Closing Night Gala film will be preceded by Reel Asian's 2012 Festival Awards Ceremony

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REEL ASIAN'S 2ND ANNUAL RICHMOND HILL WEEKEND FILM FESTIVAL

After a successful inaugural expansion to Richmond Hill last year, Reel Asian returns to the majestic Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts for a second weekend film festival to bring the best in Asian cinema outside of downtown Toronto. This year's Richmond Hill selections will only be screened in the 905 region with special guests from Floating City and Fruithunters in attendance to help celebrate this annual event.

Thanks to the Town of Richmond Hill and our invaluable community partners for welcoming us back for a second year!

BUYING SINGLE TICKETS FOR RICHMOND HILL

- Online sales for single shows begin October 9 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 Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts (RHCPA) after 6:00 PM on November 16. 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 October 10 through the RHCPA Box Office (open Mondays through Saturdays 10:00 AM-6:00 PM) – last day for walk-up advance sales in Richmond Hill is November 15. No walk-up sales available at T.O. Tix.
- During the Richmond Hill Festival (November 16-17), tickets for all shows may be purchased from the Reel Asian Box Office in the lobby of the RHCPA: 6:00 PM-8:00 PM on November 16 and 12:30 PM-7:30 PM on November 17.

BUYING SCREENING 4-PACKS FOR RICHMOND HILL

- Online sales for Screening 4-Packs available exclusively through reelasian.com (powered by TicketWeb) from 10:00 AM on October 9 until 11:55 PM on November 5. Screening 4-Packs purchased online through TicketWeb will be available for pick-up at the will-call desk during the Toronto festival or from the Reel Asian Box Office in the lobby of the RHCPA after 6:00 PM on November 16.
- Walk-up sales available in Toronto: October 9-November 3 through T.O. Tix. No walk-up sales for Screening 4-Packs available at the RHCPA Box Office.

The RHCPA welcomes service animals and guide dogs. The venue has limited braille and is fully accessible with seating available for 8 wheelchairs and 8 support persons. Films not in English are presented with English subtitles. For more information on accessibility, please visit our website, email access@reelasian.com, or call 416-703-9333.



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TICKETS & PASSES:

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Regular Screenings	\$12	\$10
4-Pack (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.



RICHMOND HILL COMMUNITY PARTNERS





FLOATING CITY

浮城大亨

Official Selection—Tokyo International Film Festival 2012

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE | RATED 14A

Director: Yim Ho (in attendance) | Hong Kong 2012 | 100:00 | 35mm | Cantonese w/ English Subtitles
 Producers: Yim Ho, Carl Chang | Writers: Yim Ho, Marco Pong | Cinematographer: Ardy Lam | Editor: Stanley Tam
 Music: Ling Yim | Cast: Aaron Kwok, Charlie Yeung, Nina Paw, Josie Ho, Annie Liu, Carlson Cheng

The pioneering Hong Kong New Wave auteur Yim Ho (*Homecoming*, *Red Desert*) returns to filmmaking with a sweeping social-historical drama set against the backdrop of the British-colonized harbour that is still known today, appropriately, as “the Floating Village”. Inspired by the life stories of two fishermen Yim met two years ago, *Floating City* is the story of a half-British, half-Chinese orphan name Bo Wah-Chuen (Aaron Kwok), as he rises from his bereft childhood on a Chinese fishing boat through the ranks of the notorious Imperial East India trading company. Grappling to define his own identity, Bo is forced to confront the realities of prejudice from class disparities and his conflicted devotion to his modest boat wife (Charlie Yeung) and his western-educated and cosmopolitan colleague (Annie Liu).

Reuniting two of Hong Kong’s veterans from *After This Our Exile* (Reel Asian 2006 Opening Night film), *Floating City* sees Aaron Kwok and Charlie Yeung reignite the screen with their indelible chemistry. Through the characters’ moments of suffering and loss, *Floating City* paints a deeply intimate and nostalgic portrayal of Hong Kong’s journey from a fishing village into the metropolitan city it is today. Often narrated by the character’s own voice, Bo’s story captures moments of social and political tumult in his surrounding world—creating a fascinating document of an often not looked at part of this island’s history.

- Aliza Ma



Yim Ho is one of Hong Kong’s famous directors that came to prominence in the 1980s, and a leader of Hong Kong New Wave. After graduating from the London Film Institute, he began his career in television production and became a movie director in 1980. His well-known and critically acclaimed work includes Home Coming (1984), Red Dust (1990), The Day The Sun Turned Cold (1994) and The Sun Has Ears (1996), for which he won multiple awards at various film festivals, including Best Film, Best Director, Best Screenplay at HK Film Awards, Taipei Golden Horse Awards, Tokyo International Film Festival, and Berlin International Film Festival.

Artist Talk with Yim Ho

TUE NOV 13 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
 Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs
 1 Devonshire Place, North House, Room 108N
 Moderated by: Professor Bart Testa, Cinema Studies
 Institute, University of Toronto

Richmond Hill Opening Reception

FRI NOV 16 | 9:30 PM
 Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
 10268 Yonge St
 Free for patrons of Floating City

Following our opening night screening of *Floating City*, join director Yim Ho in the lobby of the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts as we celebrate our second annual Richmond Hill weekend film festival with a free catered reception. Enjoy complimentary Korean dishes courtesy of Owl of Minerva.

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SPECIAL SPONSOR ARTIST TALK HOST





CHA CHA FOR TWINS

寶米恰恰

Best Narrative Feature, Best Screenplay, Taipei Film Festival 2012

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG

Directors: Yang Yi-Chien, Jim Wang | Taiwan 2012 | 101:00 | 35mm | Mandarin w/ English Subtitles

Producers: Oliver Chen, Chai-Hao Hsu, Hank Tseng | Writer: Yang Yi-Chien | Cinematographer: Fuji Fu

Editor: Adong Chen | Sound: Du-Che Tu | Music: Wan-Chien Yang | Cast: Huang Peijia, Paul Chiang, Yang Lun Ou

Adolescence is about defining one's self and identity. Most struggle through it, finding ways to try on different identities, be it goth, jock, or drama geek, until one sticks. Imagine how hard it would be to feel like an individual when people fail to differentiate between you and your twin sibling!

Poni and Mini do everything together: they go to the same school, get good grades, and play on the basketball team. But Poni, in typical teenage fashion, starts to feel angst about being so inextricably linked to her identical sister, and how it stands in her way of her individual identity. What was once convenient and even advantageous had become a burden, especially once they each catch the attention of two very different boys: the debate team captain and the school's resident knuckle head, who can't tell Poni and Mini apart.

Cha Cha For Twins extends the recent tradition of a new Taiwanese cinema that favours accessible entertainment and that includes films that have appeared at Reel Asian like *Au Revoir Taipei* (Reel Asian 2010) and *Jump Ashin!* (Reel Asian 2011). Despite the commonality of multiples in the film landscape (Octomom, Jon & Kate Plus 8 or the Doublemint twins) the rarity of twins informs our cultural fascination with them. *Cha Cha For Twins* continues the theme of twins-induced mayhem in films like *The Parent Trap* (1961, 1998). But Writer and co-Director Yang Yi-Chien, an award-winning novelist who based the film on her own experiences with a twin sibling, reaches into the emotional side of relationships between twin siblings and other people in this story about growing up while not forgetting who is important to you.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



Yi-Chien Yang, is a violinist and filmmaker from southern Taiwan. Yang's first screenplay *Father's Buddha* was adapted from her second novel. Yang's first short film *2+1* was selected in the Young Filmmaker Showcase in Taiwan Cinefest London 2009. *Cha Cha For Twins* is her first feature film. *Jim Wang* holds an M.A. from the School of Journalism of National Taiwan University. He directed *My Space Grandma* which gained three wins and two nominations in the 44th Golden Bell Awards.

PRESENTING SPONSOR





THE WOODSMAN AND THE RAIN

キツツキと雨

Special Jury Prize -
2011 Tokyo International Film Festival

CANADIAN PREMIERE | RATED PG

Director: Shuichi Okita | Japan 2011 | 129:00 | 35mm | Japanese w/ English Subtitles

Producers: Shiro Sasaki, Satoshi Arashi | Writer: Fumio Moriya | Cinematographer: Yuta Tsukinaga | Editor: Takeshi Sato

Sound: Wataru Iwamaru | Music: omu-tone | Cast: Koji Yakusho, Shun Oguri, Kengo Kora, Asami Usuda, Kanji Furutachi, Tsutomu Yamazaki

Katsu (Koji Yakusho), a 60 year-old lumberjack and widower, lives in a small tranquil village in the mountains. When a film crew suddenly arrives to shoot a zombie movie, Katsu finds himself unwittingly roped into assisting the production and is increasingly frustrated by the pushy crew- especially the young, seemingly spineless director Koichi (Shun Oguri, *Boys Over Flowers*, *Crows Zero*).

However, an improbable friendship soon develops between Katsu and Koichi, as Katsu comes to appreciate the filmmaking process, and helps Koichi to gradually recover his sense of self. Soon, their bond inspires an unusual collaboration between the villagers and the film crew.

Actor Koji Yakusho has built an illustrious filmography and is one of the most revered actors working in Japan today. Ranging from *Shall We Dance?* and *Thirteen Assassins*, to *Babel* and *Memoirs Of A Geisha*, Yakusho's performance as lonely lumberjack Katsu is played with the right mix of ennui, authority and small town naiveté.

- Anderson Le



Born in 1977, Shuichi Okita studied film at the Nihon University College of Art. His short film, *Pots and Friends* (2002), won the Grand Prize at the Mito Short Film Festival. His first feature, *The Wonderful World*, was released in 2006. After writing and directing TV dramas, he directed his second feature, *The Chef of the South Polar* (2009), which enjoyed a long theatrical run and earned him wide acclaim.



THE FRUIT HUNTERS

Official Selection—International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam 2012

TORONTO PREMIERE | RATED G

Director: Yung Chang | Canada | 2012 | 90:00 | HD | English

Executive Producers: Daniel Cross, Ravidia Din | Producers: Mila Aung-Thwin, Bob Moore, Kat Balau | Writers: Yung Chang, Mark Slutsky

Based on the book by Adam Gollner | Cinematographer: Mark Ellam | Editor: Hannele Halm | Sound: Tod Van Dyk, Kyle Stanfield (sound editor)

Music: Olivier Alary | Special Effects & Animation: Brandon Blommaert, Fred Casia

In evolutionary terms, many believe the proteins we ingested from eating other animals contributed to humanity's growing brain size, facilitating man's top-of-the-food chain status through a newfound superior intelligence. But it is fruit that inspires imagination, fuels passion, and conjures nostalgia in us. And fruit could be the force that leads us towards a food revelation, if not a food revolution.

Based on Adam Gollner's bestselling book by the same name, award-winning Canadian documentary filmmaker Yung Chang's *The Fruit Hunters* is a globetrotting tour of places and people to whom fruit is a way of life and not just a suggested daily dietary recommendation. From Borneo to Colombia, Italy to Hollywood, these fruit-obsessed individuals band together through the shared joy of sublime taste, a far cry from the tasteless factory-farmed apples, oranges and grapes most North Americans are subjected to. Fruit Hunters come from all walks of life, including life-long scientists, obsessed average joes, and celebrities like Bill Pullman, who search the world for new mango varieties, track down surreal-sounding fruit like orange cloudberry or the blackberry jam fruit, and the Superfruit, which alters your taste buds, making lemons taste sweet!

The film reflects a Willy Wonka-like bounty of "nature's candy" that is unknown to much of the world—a bounty also at risk from monoculture farming, deforestation and loss of cultural knowledge as humans increasingly urbanize. Although different in style and content from his China-centric documentary hits *Up the Yangtze* (2008) and *China Heavyweight* (2012), Chang continues to succeed at connecting up-close experiences to their distant origins.

- Aram Siu Wai Collier



Yung Chang, made his feature documentary, Up The Yangtze in 2007. The film used China's highly contested Three Gorges Dam as a dramatic backdrop for a moving and richly detailed narrative of a peasant family negotiating unprecedented historic changes. Up The Yangtze played at numerous festivals and was one of the top-grossing documentary box office releases in 2008. China Heavyweight is Chang's sophomore film. It had its World Premiere at Sundance 2012 and is currently traveling the festival circuit. He is also currently writing Eggplant, his first feature film, about a Chinese wedding photographer.

Richmond Hill Closing Reception

SAT NOV 15 | 9:00 PM

Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
10268 Yonge St

Free for patrons of the Richmond Hill Closing Night screening

Join us in the lobby for the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts after our closing night screening of *Fruit Hunters* for a sampling of exotic fruits and produce as seen in the film.

FEATURES JURY



Jesse Wente is the Head of Film Programmes at TIFF Bell Lightbox. His responsibilities include film scheduling, programming new releases and overseeing series and TIFF Cinematheque programming. Some of his contributions to programming include retrospectives on Roman

Polanski, Bernardo Bertolucci, Ousmane Sembène and Studio Ghibli. *The First Peoples Cinema: 1500 Nations, One Tradition* and its accompanying gallery exhibition *Home on Native Land* marked Wente's first major curatorial project at TIFF Bell Lightbox. Wente has also been a programmer for the imagineNATIVE Film and Media Festival. He is well known as a film critic and broadcaster in Toronto and across Canada. Before joining TIFF, he was as a weekly columnist on CBC Radio's Metro Morning and 20 other local CBC Radio shows, covering film and pop culture



Alex Rogalski programs for Hot Docs and is a Short Cuts Canada Programmer for the Toronto International Film Festival. Rogalski regularly travels across North America as the Co-ordinator of the One Take Super 8 Event. His Super 8 programmes have been featured at

the National Arts Centre, Images Festival, Pop Montreal and the WNDX Festival of Avant Garde Film. He has also curated film programmes for the Human Rights Watch Film Festival in Toronto, Pacific Cinematheque (Vancouver) and Winnipeg Cinematheque. Rogalski has a Master of Arts in Communications and Culture from York University in Toronto and continues to participate in academia. Most recently, Rogalski was an invited guest lecturer at Ryerson University, Concordia University, University of Regina and Oberlin College, Ohio.



Iris Ng is a Toronto-based freelance cinematographer who has been collaborating with award-winning filmmakers and artists for over a decade. Her credits in narrative, art, and documentary films in addition to commercials, music videos, and series television have taken her to dynamic locations in

Asia, Africa, Europe, and across North America. Her work has been screened in festivals and installations around the world including Sarah Polley's *Stories We Tell*, Angad Singh Bhalla's *Herman's House*, Rama Rau's *The Market*, Min Sook Lee's *My Toxic Baby* and international art installation projects by Luis Jacob, Chris Curreri, and Oliver Husain.

CANADIAN & SHORTS JURY



Howie Shia is a Toronto-based illustrator, animator and composer. He is a co-founder of PPF House, an animation, design and music studio dedicated to creating both independent work as well as commercial animation, illustration and music for the likes of UN-Habitat, Disney, Nike and the NFB. Shia's short

films have screened and won awards at festivals and galleries around the world, and he is currently developing series concepts for Disney UK. Outside of film, Shia has done illustration and design work for a variety of periodicals and musicians and is a frequent contributor of sets, costumes and interactive projections to Toronto's avant-garde theatre scene.



Sharlene Bamboat is a Toronto-based mixed media artist, working predominantly in film, video and performance.

Her work explores queering the narratives of diaspora, migration and nationalism. Bamboat's work has screened across Canada, Germany, India, Pakistan and

the United Kingdom. She is on the programming committee of the Pleasure Dome Film & Video Collective and is the programmer for the South Asian Visual Arts Centre.



Barbara Goslawski Barbara Goslawski has worked in several keys areas such as writer (POV, Globe and Mail, Cinemascope), broadcaster and independent programmer for diverse organizations such as the Independent Film Channel, FilmForest Cine-Club/University of Brussels and the Surprise

Film Festival in Taiwan. Other career highlights include her arts administration position at the Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre, her recent Canadian Bureau Chief service for Box Office Magazine (USA) and current contributor to the Canadian Film Encyclopedia at the Toronto International Film Festival.

PITCH JURY



Silva Basmajian's catalogue of more than 80 NFB films has garnered numerous awards and has led to screenings at many international festivals, including Berlin, Toronto and Sundance. Basmajian is currently an Executive Producer at the NFB's Ontario Centre and champions projects that

redefine documentary film, such as the award-winning and ongoing *Highrise*, a multi-year, multi-media, collaborative documentary project about the human experience in global vertical suburbs. Most recently, she co-produced the critically acclaimed and International Emmy Award-winning *Life With Murder*.



Paritosh Mehta joined OMNI Television, a division of Rogers Media Inc. and one of Canada's largest integrated media organizations, in December 1998. As Director of Independent Production Development, Mehta is responsible for directing original programming from 28 community

groups, enforcing compliance with OMNI's licensing commitments and managing the overall budget and contract management function for independent productions. Prior to OMNI, Mehta worked at Vision TV. Mehta is a graduate of Ryerson University where he earned a degree in Radio & Television Arts, with a specialization in communications. Mehta also holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Bombay University, India.



Richie Mehta's debut feature film *Amal* shot to critical acclaim and helped define him as one of the stars of Canadian film. It has won more than 30 international awards, was nominated for six Genie awards, and was named one of the top 10 Canadian films of the decade by *Playback Magazine*. Also written by

Mehta, *Amal* is currently being adapted into an American remake by producer Oprah Winfrey and Harpo Films. Mehta's short films have screened and won prizes at international festivals including Berlin, Telluride, Worldwide Shorts, Palm Springs, and the United Nations. Trained as a painter and sculptor, Mehta attended the University of Toronto's Art and Art History and Cinema Studies program and Sheridan College's Advanced Television and Film program. He has been mentored by directors such as Wim Wenders, Shekhar Kapur and Brian DePalma. Mehta is currently working on two feature films, including *I'll Follow You Down*, starring Haley Joel Osment, Gillian Anderson, Victor Garber, and Rufus Sewell.



Special Guest Juror **David Wu Tai-wai**, Director (*Cold Steel*).

See page 49 for more complete biography.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL INDUSTRY SERIES

INDUSTRY SERIES PASS: \$40

\$36 discount available to students (with valid student ID), seniors 65+ (no ID required) and for group sales (by arrangement)

Speed Dating & Meet Market: \$20 at door

Meet Market: \$5 at door

Use your Industry Series Pass to:

- * Attend and network during all Industry-designated sessions & events on this page
- * Redeem up to four tickets to any screening (excluding Opening & Closing Night films; including Richmond Hill screenings)
- * Access the Monarch Festival Hub (12 Clinton St)

Unless otherwise noted, all Industry Series events are open to Industry Pass and Festival Pass holders November 7-11 during the Downtown Toronto festival at:

Industry Series Hub - No One Writes to the Colonel (460 College St)

Complete Industry Series information and downloadable brochure available at reelasian.com.

Pre-register for applicable sessions by contacting industry@reelasian.com.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 7

SCRIPTWRITING:

HOW TO WRITE A FEATURE FILM THAT PEOPLE WANT TO SEE

WED NOV 7 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM - MASTER CLASS

Pre-registration required

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | SCRIPTWRITING WORKSHOP

Writer/story editor Elke Town leads this two-part session. Study one short film clip for the essential elements of a successful feature film, with a focus on structure and character. Participants may present their own projects and full participation is strongly encouraged. The workshop will be preceded by a Master Class (pre-registration required) in which two writers (or teams) will work one-on-one with Town to further develop an existing or new feature film project.

With: Elke Town, Writer/Story Editor (Storyworks)

GET YOUR FILM TO MARKET

WED NOV 7 | 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Learn how to leverage festival activity into a sale for your film. Get tips for creating a solid and realistic plan that incorporates a sound budget, effective marketing elements and distribution tactics. No film is too big or small to benefit from good strategy, so start here!

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

RENAISSANCE FILMMAKERS

WED, NOV 7 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM | FREE | Open to the public

How can filmmakers use their skills to make a living outside of filmmaking or during its pursuit? These professionals use their unique talent and training to make the medium work for them. Perfect for anyone interested in career possibilities in our new media world.

- With: Aleya Young, Commercial Director (Untitled Films)
Nathalie Younglai, Writer-Director

Additional guests TBA

THE ART OF PRODUCING ART

CANADIAN SPOTLIGHT: MICHAEL FUKUSHIMA

WED, NOV 7 | 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM | INNIS TOWN HALL (2 Sussex Ave, University of Toronto)

Award-winning producer Michael Fukushima investigates the role of creativity and demystifies the producing process. Ticket required. See page 13 for more information.

- With: Michael Fukushima, Producer (National Film Board of Canada)

THURSDAY, NOV 8

ARTIST TALK: KIM MYUNG-MOOK (*STATELESS THINGS*)

THUR NOV 8 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | FREE | Open to the public

Internationally acclaimed indie filmmaker Kim Myung-mook exhibits his dark, dreamy and fragmented parable set in the heartlessness of Seoul. Get ready to delve deep into the fringes of society where stories of tragedy and hope carve a distinct portrait of the South Korean city that is rarely illustrated in the work of Kim's contemporaries. For more information, please see page 17.

- Moderated by: Jon Davies, Curator (Oakville Galleries)
- With: Kim Myung-mook, Director (*Stateless Things*)

BUSINESS & LEGAL 'FUN'DAMENTALS

THUR NOV 8

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM - MASTER CLASS (Pre-registration required)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM - BUSINESS & LEGAL WORKSHOP

Calling all emerging producers! Formulating your business plan is a fun, creative and essential process that will help drive your production to maximum financial success, with the right kind of guidance. From inception to production to distribution, proactive business affairs and legal experts will share advice on what factors need to be considered, and their relationship to your project's timeline. Workshop will be preceded by a hands-on Master Class (pre-registration required) where registrants' business plans will be assessed in-depth.

- Moderated by: Karla Bobadilla, Lawyer (Lewis Birnberg Hanet, LLP) & 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)

FRIDAY, NOV 9

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

FRI NOV 9 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM | FREE | Open to the public

What is the role of food? While it is often the gateway to culture and tradition, the assembled group of diverse cineastes and food lovers begin at the intersection where food meets film. Expect a cornucopia of insight into how communities are defined by their distinctive and delectable treats, how contemporary food culture has developed and a geek-out with the audience through a collective fascination with food.

- With: Richard Fung, Director (*Dal Puri Diaspora*)
Althea Balmes, Director (*Suman Ladies*)
Yung Chang, Director (*The Fruit Hunters*)

Additional guests TBA

MASTER CLASS: DAVID WU TAI-WAI (*COLD STEEL*)

FRI, NOV 9 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM | FREE | Open to the public

Join the action with Hong Kong feature film veteran David Wu Tai-wai as he shares a personal behind-the-scenes look at the making of the action-packed *Cold Steel*, the art of editing and his longtime collaboration with genre legend John Woo (*Bullet in the Head*, *Hardboiled*).

- Moderated by: Alice Shih, Film Critic (Fairchild Radio)
- With: David Wu Tai-wai, Director (*Cold Steel*)
Colin Geddes, Programmer (Toronto International Film Festival)

QUEER FILM

FRI NOV 9 | 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM | University College RM 179, University of Toronto

Hosted by the prestigious Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies, questions about how sexuality impacts a filmmaker's work will drive a broader discussion about today's essential queer and identity issues.

With: Kim Myung-Mook, Director (*Stateless Things*)

Additional guests TBA

SPEED DATING

FRI NOV 9 | 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM | Pre-registration required

\$20 (includes Meet Market) | Free for Pass holders

Get set up with that special someone (or two, or more) from our formidable slate of industry experts and seasoned professionals. Gain valuable knowledge, obtain game-changing guidance and make a great impression for your current or next project.

MENTORS

- Brad Horvath, Head of Acquisitions and Domestic Sales (Quat Media)
- Magali Simard, Short Cuts Canada Programmer (TIFF)
- Paritosh Mehta, Director, Independent Production Development (Rogers Media)
- David Wu Tai-wai, Filmmaker (*Cold Steel*, see page 49 for more info)
- Linda Fong, Independent Production Officer (TVO)
- Patricia Lee, Manager of Development, TV Interactive (Corus Entertainment)

Additional Mentors TBA

MEET MARKET

FRI NOV 9 | 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

\$5 | Free with Industry Series Pass

You never know who you'll meet whether you're fresh from your Speed Dating rounds or coming straight from work. Why not cool off at our Industry Hub, chat with a Speed Dating Mentor over a drink or make a few creative connections with new acquaintances? Remember, what happens in the Industry Hub doesn't stay in the Industry Hub.

SATURDAY, NOV 10**TRANSMEDIA WORLD EXPRESS**

SAT NOV 10 | 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM | Venue TBA | FREE | Open to the public

Next stop: transmedia success! With such a wide array of interactive tools available to filmmakers, we highlight hybrid projects while discussing what they've been getting right, the challenges involved in producing for multiple platforms, utilizing the popular web series format and making real connections with an audience. Co-presented by Transmedia 101.

- Moderated by: Anthea Foyer (Transmedia 101)
- With: Romeo Candido, Director (*Prison Dancer*)
Ana Serrano, Producer (*Prison Dancer*)
Jay Ferguson, Creator (*Guidestones*)

3D FLIC & CFC MEDIA LAB PRESENTS: 3D FOR REAL

SAT NOV 10 | 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM | Venue TBA | FREE | Open to the public

How can 3D be used to further storytelling with independent budget constraints? This type of filmmaking technology demands a fresh breed of director to harness unprecedented levels of creativity and resourcefulness. The rich possibilities of 3D filmmaking on a budget will spur lively discussion on visionary filmmaking that incorporates technology to extraordinary effect. 3D examples will be shown.

- Moderated by: Guest TBA (CFC Media Lab)
- With: Park Hong-min, Director (*A Fish*)
Ali Kazimi (3D Flic)
Laurie Wilcox (3D Flic)

Additional guests TBA

CO-PRODUCTIONS: ASIA & NORTH AMERICA

SAT NOV 10 | 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM | Venue TBA

With strong ties being forged between North America and East, Southeast and South Asia, filmmakers join industry professionals to share valuable insight about their 'co-pro' experiences, what to watch out for and the mechanisms that facilitate these partnerships such as the China Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement.

- With: David Wu Tai-wai, Director (*Cold Steel*)
Gloria Lo (Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office)
Sidney Chiu, Producer (SC Productions)
Yung Chang, Director (*The Fruit Hunters*)
Han Yan, Director (*First Time*)
Jiang Yanming, President (China Lion Entertainment)

Additional Guests TBA

SUNDAY, NOV 11**SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH? LIVE FINALE**

SUN NOV 11 | 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM | THE ROYAL CINEMA (608 COLLEGE ST)
FREE | Open to the public

Bring protection! Pitch finalists face off in front of Special Guest Juror David Wu (*Cold Steel*), who ratchets up the action intensity alongside our new Pitch Jury for this exciting public event. See page 57 for more information.

- Hosted by: Keith Cole, Performer & Filmmaker
- Pitch Clinic Coach: John Galway, President (Astral's Harold Greenberg Fund)

3D FLIC & CFC MEDIA LAB INDUSTRY SERIES RECEPTION

SUN, NOV 11 | 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM | NO ONE WRITES TO THE COLONEL (460 College St.)

Join us as we announce the winners of our So You Think You Can Pitch? competition. Mingle and network with 3D filmmakers, industry professionals and festival delegates while we toast all Pitch finalists in our wrap-up of yet another successful annual Industry Series at Reel Asian.

TUESDAY, NOV 13**ARTIST TALK: YIM HO (FLOATING CITY)**

TUE NOV 13 | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

See page 55 for more info

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH? AWARDS**ESTABLISHED FILMMAKER CATEGORY**

This award has a \$5,000 value (\$18,000 value at industry rental rates)

- 2-hour business affairs & legal consultation with Behind the Scenes Services
- Opportunity to screen work at the 2013 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival with full festival accreditation
- \$2,000 cash
- Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1
- A production workflow consultation with Charles Street Video that includes:
 - \$2,000 in edit suite access
 - \$700 in production equipment rentals
 - \$400 artist fee
 - two x 7-hour sessions with Charles Street Video's in-house editor
 - One-year membership with Charles Street Video

EMERGING FILMMAKER CATEGORY

This award has a \$3,000 value (\$10,000 value at industry rental rates)

- 2-hour business affairs & legal consultation with Behind the Scenes
- Opportunity to screen work at the 2013 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival with full festival accreditation
- \$2,000 cash
- Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1
- A production workflow consultation with Charles Street Video that includes:
 - \$1,400 in edit suite access and/or production equipment rentals
 - \$250 artist fee
 - two sessions with Charles Street Video's in-house editor
 - One-year membership with Charles Street Video





COLLECTOR(S)

Artist: Zhou Tao | China, 2003 - 2012 | Video

Curated by Siya Chen and He Cong

Courtesy of Vitamin Creative Space, China

Four men perched in a tree, starkly illuminated with green fluorescent light and surrounded by darkness. They mimic the calls of animals, clucking, barking, as livestock and fowl, implying (mis)communication in *Chicken Speak to Duck, Dog Speak to Pig*. Meanwhile strange activities take place among village locals in the *South Stone*. Fluctuating city sounds from afar provide the soundtrack for two figures acrobatically fishing out vegetables from a stream of still water.

Rolling up the stairs of the Guangdong Museum of Arts, the grim grandeur of Guangzhou's cityscape takes on a personal scale as a man insists on getting "through" his "Obstacles" against the vast backdrop of vacant public space. The unified sound of "discipline-building" marches of 1,2,3,4 and chants of over one thousand immigrant workers from fifty companies in Shanghai and Shenzhen invokes the adrenaline of collectivity and with it, complex desires.

Highly stylized and masterfully edited, these works by Chinese artist Zhou Tao give fascinating insight into the social and economic dimensions of living in Chinese urban, suburban, and rural atmospheres. Whether somersaulting through cityscapes or imitating farm animals, Zhou works through performance and cinema with a language that embraces open narrative as a metaphorical philosophy for survival in contemporary China.

An alchemist of the ordinary, Zhou's intuitive and investigative methodology is equal parts serendipitous flair and meticulous planning. Partly "realized" through months of on location researching, collecting and responding to emotional moments, and partly "fictionalized" with rehearsed performance, Zhou treats site and character as bodies capable of both spontaneous and habituated gestures; the camera, the performers, the city and village all become extensions of the artist's body. Subtly shifting focus on the environment-as-stage to the performers, Zhou uses the physical and sensory language of the body to do the talking.

Collector(s) is Zhou Tao's first solo exhibition in Canada, showcasing Zhou's methodology and process, where his full body of video-based work intersects the Reel Asian Film Festival at different angles and culminates at TPW R&D. As an integral part of his practice, Zhou's drawings, storyboards, writings, and diagrammatic material from his working process will also be presented as parallel dimensions to his video works.

- Siya Chen



Zhou Tao is an interdisciplinary artist based in Guangzhou, China. Born in 1976 in Changsha, Hunan Province, Zhou graduated from Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in 2006 and won the Asian Cultural Council scholarship in 2009. Zhou is currently enrolled in the residency program of Kadist Art Foundation in Paris. He has presented international solo exhibitions at Times Museum, Guangzhou (2012), MIT List Visual Arts Center, San Francisco and Los Angeles (2011). His works have been shown in numerous exhibitions, including *Beyond the Crisis, the 6th Curitiba Biennale, Brazil (2011)*, *Thirty Years of Chinese Contemporary Art - Moving Image in China (1988-2011)*, *Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai (2011)*, *BodyTalks in Maastricht, Museum Het Demein, Netherlands (2011)*, *Yes, But--., Location One, New York, NY (2010)*, *Dress Codes, The Third ICP Triennial of Photography and Video, ICP International Center for Photography, NY (2009)*, *The Big World: Recent Art from China, Chicago Cultural Center (2009)*, *Louis Vuitton: A Passion for Creation, Hong Kong Museum of Art (2009)*, *7th Shanghai Biennale, Shanghai Art Museum, Shanghai (2008)*, *China Power Station Part III, MUDAM, Luxembourg (2008)*, *Guangzhou Station: Special Exhibition of Contemporary Art of Guangdong (2007)*, *China Power Station Part II, Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo (2007)*, and *Archaeology of the Future: The 2nd Triennial of Chinese Art, Nanjing Museum, Nanjing (2005)*.

EXHIBITION

NOV 7-17

Innis College & TPW R&D

VIDEO LOOP PROJECTION WITH SOUND

Nov 7 - 8 | **Sundown**

Innis College Lobby

1, 2, 3, 4

Zhou Tao | China 2008 | 3:33

OPENING RECEPTION

Nov 8 | **5:30-8:00PM**

TPW R&D

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Nov 14 | **6:00-9:00PM**

TPW R&D

VENUES

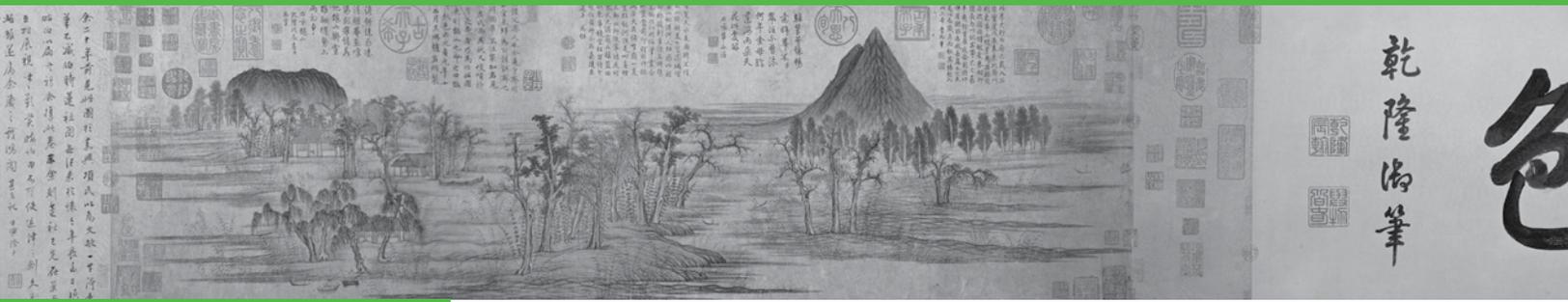
Innis College
2 Sussex Ave
416-946-7066

TPW R&D
1256 Dundas St W
Gallery hours: Wed to Sat 12:00-5:00 PM
416-645-1066
gallerytpw.ca

TPW R&D, a project of Gallery TPW, is a transitional and flexible storefront space for shared research and the development of critical discourse.

CO-PRESENTER

TPW R&D



AUTUMN COLOURS AFTER ZHAO MENGFU

East Gallery
334 Dundas St W
FRI NOV 9, 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Artist: Hank Bull | Canada 2012
Video Screening and
Performance Lecture | 60:00

CO-PRESENTER

Gendai

Beginning with the Yuan dynasty scroll painting *Autumn Colors on the Que and Hua Mountains* (鵲華秋色), Vancouver-based artist Hank Bull bridges the classical and the contemporary through this special video presentation and lecture. The art of Chinese landscape painting is interpreted through cinematic image; in his wide-ranging illustrated performance, Bull unfurls this aesthetic tradition in connection with historical and current political relations between China, Taiwan, Japan, and Canada.

The delicately rendered mountains of this Chinese masterpiece were painted from memory by the celebrated artist Zhao Mengfu in 1296. Taking artistic license with the actual distance between the mountain ranges, Zhao chose to depict a seamless, flowing vista for a unique perspective on natural beauty. Re-imagining the geography and pairing nuanced references to archaic brushwork with calligraphic innovation, Zhao's interpretive strokes are echoed centuries later in Bull's video exploration of the same landscape. Shot in 1997 in the outskirts of Jinan, Shandong Province, Bull's video shows a contemporary landscape with bridges and expressways alongside wheat fields that are harvested by hand, just as they were 800 years ago. Zhao inscribed his painting with historical references to ancient techniques and texts; continuing the tradition, Bull alludes to the landscapes of Hokusai, Monet, and Van Gogh, for a panorama of our timeless fascination with the natural sublime.

- Serena Lee

Born in Calgary in 1949, Hank Bull started his artistic career as a Blues pianist, touring Canada and Europe. In 1973, he joined the Western Front, and has produced work in a wide range of media, including radio, video, sound, performance, telecommunications, and painting. In 1999 he co-founded Centre A, the Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art in Vancouver. From 2002 to 2008, he was a member of the Sectoral Committee for Arts and Culture of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, and from 2008 to 2009, he was a regular contributor to the Governor General's committee on arts and culture. He has recently presented new paintings and video in a solo exhibition in Tokyo, Japan, and at Vancouver.



Showing new perspectives on the nature of "live-ness" and performance for the camera, *Exhibition as a Guest and Host* draws from the performative in the video works of featured contemporary Chinese artists, as its main point of departure. The selected works encompass performance for the camera through to slight interventions in public space, rather than video documentation. The artists share their relationships with their environments, and the systems they work in and challenge our understanding and expectations as a viewer. Responding to this "live-ness", the exhibition adopts a similar performative format by proposing new relations in space and time to the viewer.

Spotlighting the generation of artists whose work emerged after the burst of the Chinese market bubble, this selection of videos is a uniquely dispersed configuration. The simultaneous presentation of videos in different institutions provides an overview of each artist's practice while offering a unique interpretation of the group show format that is not bound by a physical space or direct proximity. Each video "guest" unit has a resonance with its host site, evoking unusual relations of viewing through these encounters.

Exhibition as a Guest and Host invites a Special Mobile Unit by Video Bureau—the first artist-initiated institution in China focusing on video—to share its video archive throughout the run of the exhibition. As a touring guest from venue to venue for one month, Video Bureau will provide a historical look at video art in China. With over 100 works to date, Video Bureau focuses on individual artists as case studies rather than a historical timeline of video art. The audience will have access to the overall archive and will be free to select and view works, playing host and guest throughout the whole project

- Yan Wu

Biljana Ciric is an independent curator based in Shanghai. She graduated from East China Normal University in Shanghai with a M.A in Art history and was the director of the Curatorial Department at the Shanghai Duolun Museum of Modern Art. Her ambitious project Migration Addicts was presented at the 52nd Venice Biennale. Her exhibition projects include Strategies from Within - Contemporary Art Practices in Vietnam and Cambodia (Ke Center of Contemporary Arts) and a major retrospective of Yoko Ono (Ke Center for Contemporary Art, Guangdong Museum of Art).

EXHIBITION AS A GUEST AND HOST

OCT 24 - NOV 17

Curated by Biljana Ciric

Artists: Li Ran, Hu Xiangqian,
Yan Xing (China)

Special guest/host: Video Bureau (China)

Exhibition host venues

- **InterAccess**
9 Ossington Ave
Interaccess.org
- **Art Metropole**
1490 Dundas Street West
artmetropole.com
- **University of Toronto Art Centre**
15 King's College Circle
utac.utoronto.ca
- **Monarch Festival Hub (Nov 9 – 11)**
12 Clinton St
themonarchtavern.com

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JAKE SHIMABUKURO: LIFE ON FOUR STRINGS

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