

For Immediate Release

Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum celebrates 10th anniversary with record numbers and an eclectic line-up

Hong Kong, 6 January 2012 — The 10th Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF), to be held at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 19-21 March 2012, announced today that a record 32 projects have been selected for HAF 2012, a fitting achievement to celebrate the forum's tenth anniversary.

Organised by the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited (HKIFFS), the HAF is one of Asia's most important film-financing platforms, bringing talented filmmakers and global investors together with the aim of encouraging and enabling the production of quality film work in the region. Established and emerging filmmakers and their projects have been introduced and matched with investors from all over the world since the very first HAF in 2000, and as the forum marks its tenth outing, that success looks set to continue. Of more than 200 projects submitted for consideration, HAF 2012 has selected a record 32 for inclusion in the final programme, including six documentary titles. Submissions were received from more than 45 countries and regions, and the final selection represents 20 different territories including Australia, Armenia, China, the Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, The Philippines, Slovakia, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand, the most so far in the HAF's history.

"I'm delighted that for the HAF's tenth anniversary, we have one of the strongest years in terms of the selection that I have seen since I joined the committee," said Raymond PHATHANAVIRANGOON, member of the HAF 2012 Project Reading Committee, "and the fact that they come from such diverse regions of the world makes it even more of a pleasure to review them."

The HAF 2012 project line-up reveals some prominent names in the world of film, including China's **GU Changwei**, who won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2005 Berlin Film Festival with his first feature *Peacock*. He will be presenting his new project *Ready for War* at the 10th HAF. Also joining is Iceland's veteran filmmaker **Fridrik**

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Thor FRIDRIKSSON, whose *Children of Nature* was nominated for Best Foreign Language Film at the 1992 Academy Awards. He will bring his latest story *Lost in Poetry* to the forum. Meanwhile, **TAN Chui Mui** will come with *Imperial Exam*, a project produced by “Sixth Generation” director **JIA Zhangke**.

Other notable names include: Oscar winner **Ruby YANG**, who won Best Documentary (Short Subject) with *The Blood of Yingzhou District* at the 2007 Academy Awards; South Korea’s **LEE Hae-jun**, who wrote and directed festival favourite *Castaway on the Moon* (2009); Australia’s **Tony AYRES**, whose *The Home Song Stories* garnered the 2007 Australia Film Institute Awards for Best Direction and Best Screenplay; and Hong Kong’s *enfant terrible* **PANG Ho-cheung**, who was nominated for the Golden Bear at the 2006 Berlin Film Festival with *Isabella*.

HAF 2012 also features a number of up and coming directors such as Taiwan’s Chinese-American director **Arvin CHEN**, who won the NETPAC Award at the 2010 Berlin Film Festival for *Au Revoir Taipei*, and versatile Hong Kong actor **Derek TSANG**, who co-directed with **Jimmy WAN** their feature debut *Lover’s Discourse*, nominee for the New Currents Award at the 2010 Pusan International Film Festival.

This year’s HAF is the first to include documentary projects. Among the six documentaries selected are *(Un)making the Betrayal*, Malaysian director **Dain SAID**’s exploration of the ways cinema can collude with a totalitarian regime, and *Music and the Nation* by Hong Kong’s **CHEUNG King-wai**, winner of Best New Director at the 2010 Hong Kong Film Awards for *KJ* (2008).

To enhance film-financing networks and facilitate the exchange of promising projects, the HAF has actively cooperated with a number of international partners. The 10th HAF will feature one project from New York’s Independent Filmmaker Project, *You’re a Big Girl Now*, and two projects from Copenhagen’s DOX:LAB, *Love: 1984* and *Hangman*.

Roger GARCIA, Executive Director of the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited, said, “We are delighted by the eclectic selection and the considerable increase in submissions this year. These are encouraging signs of the

HAF's growing popularity and its importance to filmmakers in the region. We highly value our partnership with other project markets including Copenhagen's DOX:LAB, New York's Independent Filmmaker Project, and Paris Project from France, which has effectively expanded our international networks and in turn enriched the range of filmmakers we aim to support."

Tim KWOK, member of the HAF 2012 Project Reading Committee, concluded, "With 2012 marking the HAF's tenth anniversary milestone, the forum continues to stand on a philosophy of selecting, nurturing and promoting Asia and the world's unique and challenging voices, by providing them with a place to be heard and supported."

HAF 2012 promises to build on the forum's outstanding track record of bringing projects to fruition, with many HAF alumni projects achieving box office triumphs and critical acclaim. Recent HAF successes include **WEI Te-Sheng's** *Warriors of the Rainbow: Seediq Bale*, which scooped a total of five awards at the 2011 Golden Horse Awards, and the Filipino critical hit *Kinatay*, which landed **Brillante MENDOZA** the Best Director prize at Cannes in 2009.

For more details of HAF's past accomplishments, please visit www.haf.org.hk.

A complete list of projects selected for the 10th HAF is included in the Appendix.

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Appendix

The 10th HAF Project List

1. 1982	Lebanon 黎巴嫩
Director 導演：Oualid MOUANESS	
Producer 監製：Feyrouz SERHAL	
Production Companies 製作公司：Roummana, Tricycle Logic	
2. Afternoon Delight! 下午茶	Taiwan 台灣
Director 導演：Arvin CHEN 陳駿霖	
Producers 監製：LEE In-Ah 李仁兒, LEE Lieh 李烈	
Production Company 製作公司：One Production Film Company 影一製作所股份有限公司	
3. Ali's Wedding	Australia 澳洲
Director 導演：Tony AYRES 湯尼艾里斯	
Producers 監製：Michael MCMAHON, Helen PANCKHURST	
Production Company 製作公司：Matchbox Pictures Pty Ltd.	
4. Another Country	South Korea 南韓
Director 導演：JEON Soo-il 全秀一	
Producer 監製：Michelle SON	
Production Company 製作公司：Dongnyuk Film	
5. Balloon 氣球	China 中國
Director 導演：Pema Tsenden 萬瑪才旦	
Producers 監製：Sangye Gyamtso 桑杰尖措, GUO Yonghao 郭永浩	
Production Company 製作公司：Himalaya Audio & Visual Culture Communication Co., Ltd 喜瑪拉雅影視文化傳播有限公司	

6. Be With You 碟仙

Hong Kong / Italy

香港 / 意大利

Director 導演：PANG Ho-cheung 彭浩翔

Producers 監製：Subi LIANG Qiyuan 梁啟緣, PANG Ho-cheung 彭浩翔

Production Company 製作公司：Making Film Productions Limited 正在電影製作有限公司

7. Chocolate City GZ 巧克力之城

China 中國

Director 導演：Ruby YANG 楊紫燁

Producers 監製：Lambert YAM 任國光, Ruby YANG 楊紫燁

Production Company 製作公司：Chang Ai Media Project Ltd. 倡愛文化傳播有限公司

8. City of the Lost Things 廢棄之城

Taiwan 台灣

Director 導演：YEE Chih-Yen 易智言

Producer 監製：LEE Lieh 李烈

Production Company 製作公司：One Production Film Company 影一製作所股份有限公司

9. Cross Road 路口

China 中國

Director 導演：PENG Tao 彭韜

Producer 監製：PENG Tao 彭韜

Production Company 製作公司：New Youth Independent Film Studio 新青年獨立電影

10. Curious Grandmas: The Murder of Annet Van Houten

Indonesia 印尼

Director 導演：Lucky KUSWANDI 勒基古斯旺迪

Producer 監製：Sammara SIMANJUNTAK

Production Company 製作公司：The Fat Cocoon

11. Elephant Soldiers

Armenia 亞美尼亞

Directors 導演：Vardan HOVHANNISYAN, Inna SAHAKYAN

Producers 監製：Yulia GRIGORYANTS, Inna SAHAKYAN

Production Company 製作公司：Bars Media Studio

12. The Enemy - 1949 敵人 - 1949

Taiwan 台灣

Director 導演：CHANG Tso-Chi 張作驥
Producer 監製：CHANG Tso-Chi 張作驥
Production Company 製作公司：Chang Tso Chi Film Studio 張作驥電影工作室有限公司

13. Flowing Stories 河上變村

Hong Kong / France / UK

香港 / 法國 / 英國

Director 導演：TSANG Tsui-shan 曾翠珊
Producer 監製：Teresa KWONG 鄺珮詩
Production Company 製作公司：River Vision Production 河上風光製作

14. The Fourth Direction

India 印度

Director 導演：Gurvinder SINGH 格溫達辛格
Producer 監製：Kartikeya Narayan SINGH
Production Company 製作公司：The Film Cafe

15. Hangman

Thailand 泰國

Directors 導演：Jakrawal NILTHAMRONG, Ionut PITURESCU
Producers 監製：Patricia DRATI, Tine FISCHER, Pimpaka TOWIRA
Production Companies 製作公司：CPH:DOX, Extra Virgin Co., Ltd.

16. Here Comes the Sun

Israel 以色列

Director 導演：Eitan ANNER
Producers 監製：Gal GREENSPAN, Roi KURLAND
Production Company 製作公司：GREENproductions

17. Igna

The Philippines 菲律賓

Director 導演：Eduardo ROY JR.
Producers 監製：Almond DERLA, Ferdinand LAPUZ
Production Company 製作公司：Found Films

18. Imperial Exam 狀元圖

China 中國

Director 導演：TAN Chui Mui 陳翠梅
Producer 監製：JIA Zhangke 賈樟柯
Production Company 製作公司：Xstream Pictures 北京西河星匯影業有限公司

19. Lost in Poetry

Iceland 冰島

Director 導演：Fridrik Thor FRIDRIKSSON
Producer 監製：Fridrik Thor FRIDRIKSSON
Production Company 製作公司：Icelandic Film Corporation

20. Love: 1984

**Japan / Czech Republic /
Slovakia
日本 / 捷克 / 斯洛伐克**

Directors 導演：SODA Kazuhiro 想田和弘, Peter KEREKES
Producers 監製：Patricia DRATI, Peter KEREKES
Production Companies 製作公司：CPH:DOX, Peter Kerekes Ltd.

21. The MacLennan Affair 麥樂倫事件

Hong Kong 香港

Directors 導演：Derek TSANG 曾國祥, Jimmy WAN 尹志文
Producer 監製：Lorna TEE 鄭碧雪
Production Company 製作公司：afterimage production Limited 餘留影像製作有限公司

22. Monsters

South Korea 南韓

Director 導演：KIM Baek-jun 金白俊
Producer 監製：KIL Young-min 吉永敏
Production Company 製作公司：JK Film

23. Music and the Nation 音樂中國

Hong Kong 香港

Director 導演：CHEUNG King-wai 張經緯
Producers 監製：CHEUNG King-wai 張經緯, WONG Suet-lee 黃雪莉
Production Company 製作公司：Beautiful Productions Limited 秀美製作

24. My Dictator

South Korea 南韓

Director 導演：LEE Hae-jun 李海準
Producer 監製：KIM Moo-ryoung 金茂令
Production Company 製作公司：banzakbanzak Film Production

25. Night of Their Own 獵狗

China 中國

Director 導演：ZHAO Ye 趙擘
Producer 監製：LI Shanshan 李姍姍
Production Company 製作公司：Beijing Creative Art Talent Corporation 創意藝能

26. Ready for War 偉大的和平來自於對戰爭的不懈準備

China 中國

Director 導演：GU Changwei 顧長衛
Producers 監製：GU Changwei 顧長衛, YANG Weiwei 楊薇薇
Production Company 製作公司：Lab 852 Co., Ltd. 拾見電影會有限公司

27. Red Umbrella

Indonesia 印尼

Directors 導演：Andri CUNG, Edward GUNAWAN
Producer 監製：Edward GUNAWAN
Production Company 製作公司：Add Word Productions

28. The Seen and Unseen

Indonesia 印尼

Director 導演：Kamila ANDINI
Producer 監製：Gita FARA
Production Company 製作公司：SET Film Production

29. Tang Wong

Thailand 泰國

Director 導演：Kongdej JATURANRASMEE
Producers 監製：Kongdej JATURANRASMEE, Soros SUKHUM
Production Company 製作公司：The Twin Production

30. (Un)Making the Betrayal

Indonesia / Malaysia

印尼 / 馬來西亞

Director 導演：Dain SAID
Producer 監製：Nandita SOLOMON
Production Company 製作公司：Apparat

31. The Vicious Criminal 凶惡

Japan 日本

Director 導演：SHIRAISHI Kazuya 白石和彌
Producer 監製：CHIBA Yoshinori 千葉善紀
Production Company 製作公司：Nikkatsu Corporation 日活株式会社

32. You're a Big Girl Now 晴空萬里任翱翔

Malaysia / Taiwan / China

馬來西亞 / 台灣 / 中國

Director 導演：Tze CHUN 陳子翱
Producer 監製：Mynette LOUIE 雷敏妮
Production Company 製作公司：Syncopated Films

About Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF)

The Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) is widely recognised as the most important film-financing platform in Asia. The HAF brings Asian filmmakers with upcoming film projects to Hong Kong for co-production ventures with top film financiers, producers, bankers, distributors and buyers. Attracting more than 1,000 filmmakers and financiers from at least 35 countries and regions, around 30 projects are selected annually to participate in the three-day event.

Past participants include China's JIA Jiangke, JIANG Wen and NING Hao; Hong Kong's Peter CHAN, Stanley KWAN, Ann HUI, Fruit CHAN and PANG Ho-cheung; Taiwan's TSAI Ming-Liang, WEI Te-Sheng and Leon DAI; Japan's KORE-EDA Hirokazu, KUROSAWA Kiyoshi and IWAI Shunji; South Korea's PARK Chan-wook, KIM Jee-woon, BONG Joon-ho and IM Sang-soo; as well as Thailand's Ekachai UEKRONGTHAM, Nonzee NIMIBUTR and Pen-ek RATANARUANG.

About The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited (HKIFFS)

The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited (HKIFFS) is a charitable, non-profit and non-governmental organisation dedicated to the discovery and promotion of creativity in the art and culture of film. Through its year-round programmes, the mission of the Society is to strengthen global appreciation of Chinese film culture and to promote inspiring films from around the world, enriching the cultural life of Hong Kong. Committed to the development of a vibrant film culture in Hong Kong and Asia, the Society organises three annual flagship events in March and April: the Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF), the Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) and the Asian Film Awards (AFA).

Passionately believing in the power of films to unite cultures and generations, the HKIFFS is devoted to giving thousands of film lovers around the region direct access to the world's most inspired films all year round.

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