

For Immediate Release

Winners announced for the 16<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum  
Recognition of Asia emerging directors and remarkable film projects



**Hong Kong, 21 March, 2018** - The 16<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) concluded successfully today after the three-day investment forum and awards ceremony at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. The event gathered filmmakers, leading film financiers and industry professionals across the world to witness the first step towards their dreams. A total of 11 awards were presented to these promising and remarkable film projects.

HAF is the leading international event honouring excellence on the emerging filmmakers in Asia and offering them valuable opportunities to meet with industry professionals. The three-day event attracted leading film financiers, producers, distributors and buyers across the world, connecting them with talented filmmakers through business meetings and networking events. This year, HAF continues to organize **WIP Lab** to help filmmakers secure post-production funds, sales agents and film festival support. HAF will again partner with Marche du Film of Cannes Film Festival to present the “**HAF Goes to Cannes**” program, offering unprecedented screening opportunities and global exposure at the festival market in May for promising film projects seeking potential distribution partners and festival screenings.

HAF has been actively promoting the development of Asian film productions and it has built an important foundation for talented filmmakers to realise their visions. Throughout the years, HAF projects have found global success. This year, the 11 award winners were selected from a total of 25 HAF and 10 WIP Lab film projects. Many of the films touch on gender, family and contemporary social issues, while some others give voice to minorities in society. The total value of the awards presented amounted to approximately HK\$1,400,000 (US\$180,000) in cash and value in-kind, thanks to the generous support of various sponsors and partners.

**1. HAF Awards (Presented by Create HK, Hong Kong Film Development Fund and HAF)**

Mr. Wellington Fung, Assistant Head of Create Hong Kong, kicked off the ceremony by presenting two HAF Awards to *Love in the Valley of Daughters* (Hong Kong) and *Saving One Who was Dead* (Czech Republic) for Hong Kong Project and non-Hong Kong Project categories respectively. Each project received a cash prize of HK\$150,000 (approx. US\$19,200) in recognition of their originality and creativity.

**2. mm2 Award (Presented by mm2 Asia Limited)**

*Still Human (Hong Kong)* was honoured with the mm2 Award which aims to encourage Chinese-language film projects that exhibit good commercial and artistic quality. The winner was selected by the representatives of mm2 Asia Ltd. and received the cash award of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,800).

**3. Wanda WIP Lab Award (Presented by Wanda Pictures)**

All WIP Lab Projects are eligible to compete for the award. The Wanda WIP Lab Award was presented the winner selected by the executives of Wanda Pictures. The cash award of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,800) was awarded to *From Black and White to Shades of Grey (China)*.

**4. Wouter Barendrecht Award (Presented by Wouter Barendrecht Film Foundation, Create HK and Hong Kong Film Development Fund)**

Dedicated to the memory of the late Wouter Barendrecht, the renowned film producer and one of the founders of HAF, the Wouter Barendrecht Award went to *Let Me Rest in Peace (Japan)*. This cash award of HK\$50,000 (approx. US\$6,400) recognises a project by a director under 35 who has not made more than three feature films.

**5. Network of Asian Fantastic Films Award (Presented by Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival)**

The Network of Asian Fantastic Films Award was given to **IMAH (working title)** (Indonesia, France) with sponsored hospitality of US\$2,700 (approx. HK\$21,000) to participate in the 2018 Network of Asian Fantastic Films project market.

**6. Wutianming Post-Production Award (Presented by China Film Foundation-Wutianming Fund for Young Talents)**

The Wutianming Post-Production Award is to encourage and support young film talents. An in-kind award of RMB 300,000 (approx. HK\$365,000) was given to **Stonewalling** (China), which will be offered post-production support by Shanghai Leading Digital Post.

**7. White Light Post-Production Award (Presented by White Light Studio)**

White Light Studio is designed to promote cinematic innovation and promising Asian directors. The two in-kind awards went to **Vengeance is Mine, All Others Pay Cash** (Indonesia) from HAF and **Mosaic Portrait** (China) from WIP Lab. Each project will be offered post-production services valued at US\$15,000 (approx. HK\$117,300) at their studio in Bangkok, Thailand.

**8. G2D Post Production Award (Presented by G2D)**

G2D will sponsor two in-kind awards for **The Big Picture** (South Korea) from HAF and **AGANAI - The Atonement** (Japan) from WIP Lab. Each winning project will be sponsored US\$15,000 (approx. HK\$117,300) towards a sound package for a film including foley, sound design, dialogue editing, atmosphere and a final mix.

**9. HAF Goes to Cannes (Presented by Nicefilm)**

“HAF Goes to Cannes” presents opportunities for filmmakers to look for sales agents, distributors and film festivals. Beijing Nicefilm Technology Co. Ltd., a TV and film production company in China, will provide a traveling subsidy of HK\$100,000 in total to the projects selected for “HAF Goes to Cannes”, including **The Man Who Surprised Everyone** (Russia, France, Estonia), **The Pencil** (Russia), **Sister** (Bulgaria), **The Sorcerer** (Panama) and **Still Human** (Hong Kong).

Mr. Jacob WONG, Curator of the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society and Director of the HAF said, “The 16<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum was a great success. Thanks to the support from the fellow filmmakers and partners across the world. Many shortlisted and award-winning projects were very anticipating. We will continue to seek out and provide new opportunities for filmmakers in the region and strive to provide sufficient resources and unprecedented opportunities for the next generation talented filmmakers.”

A complete award list for the 16<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) can be found in **Appendix 1**.

For further project details, please explore:

HAF: <https://www.haf.org.hk/project.php?cid=16>

WIP Lab: <https://www.haf.org.hk/wiplabproject.php?cid=2>

Operation Greenlight: <https://www.haf.org.hk/operationgreenlight>

**Photos download:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/552tsz6h2jmogw8/AAB18wMUSuWF0fVoDu8g5aIea?dl=0>

For more information about HAF, please visit the official website at <http://www.haf.org.hk/> and the HAF Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/hafhkiffs/>.

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**About Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF)**

The Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) is widely recognized as an established film financing platform in Asia. 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 25 to 30 projects are selected annually to participate in the three-day event. HAF has the added 4 advantage of being held in conjunction with Hong Kong Filmart, Asia's largest film market which attracts over 8,000 professionals.

HAF has partnered with international organisations to provide a range of opportunities to participants. Partners include iQIYI (China), Fox International Productions (Greater China) (US), Cinemart (the Netherlands), Asian Project Market (South Korea), Golden Horse Film Project Promotion (Taiwan), New Cinema Network (Italy) and others. Cash and in-kind awards to the

value of around US\$150,000 are made with support from Create Hong Kong and Film Development Fund among others. Past participants include China's JIA Jiangke, JIANG Wen, LU Chuan 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, CHUNG Mong-Hong and Leon DAI; Japan's KORE-EDA Hirokazu, KUROSAWA Kiyoshi, KAWASE Naomi and IWAI Shunji; South Korea's PARK Chan-wook, KIM Jee-woon, BONG Joon-ho and IM Sang-soo; as well as Thailand's Apichatpong WEERASETHAKUL, Ekachai UEKRONGTHAM, Nonzee NIMIBUTR and Pen-ek RATANARUANG.

### **About The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited**

The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited (HKIFFS/Society) is a charitable, non-profit and non-governmental organisation dedicated to the discovery and promotion of creativity in the art and culture of film.

The Society is committed to making world cinema accessible and affordable to the public. It organizes the annual flagship the Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) and the Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) in March and April. Another annual highlight is the Summer International Film Festival (SummerIFF) held every August. The repertory HKIFF Cine Fan Programme was launched in April 2013 with the aim to enrich and deepen the experience of Hong Kong moviegoers through a monthly programme of contemporary, retrospective and thematic showcases.

Through its annual programmes, the Society promotes international appreciation of Asian, Hong Kong and Chinese film culture; introduces world cinema to Hong Kong audiences; and continues to underline Hong Kong's key position in the international film community.

KIFFS's dedication to quality and intelligent programming, its devotion to the discovery of new areas of filmmaking in Asia and China, its exceptional work for Hong Kong cinema, seminars and acclaimed publications, gives it a unique and respected international reputation that helps promote Hong Kong cinema at home and abroad.

## Appendix 1: The 16<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong – Asia Film Financing Forum Award List

### 1. HAF Award (Hong Kong Project)

<b>Love in the Valley of Daughters</b>	<b>Hong Kong</b>
Director: YUEN Han-yan Producer: Eric POON, Ruby YANG, Yuen Han-yan Production Company: Singing Cicada Detail: <a href="https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117121517_1834.pdf">https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117121517_1834.pdf</a>	

### 2. HAF Award (Non-Hong Kong Project)

<b>Saving One Who was Dead</b>	<b>Czech Republic</b>
Director: Václav KADRŇKA Producer: Václav KADRŇKA Production Company: Sirius Films s.r.o. Detail: <a href="https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117122458_1888.pdf">https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117122458_1888.pdf</a>	

### 3. mm2 Award

<b>Still Human</b>	<b>Hong Kong</b>
Director : Oliver CHAN Siu-kuen Producer : Fruit CHAN Production Company : No Ceiling Film Production Limited Detail : <a href="https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204015726_220.pdf">https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204015726_220.pdf</a>	

### 4. Wanda WIP Lab Award

<b>From Black and White to Shades of Grey</b>	<b>China</b>
Director : HUANG Zi Producer : HUANG Zi Production Company : Huang Zi Film Studio Detail : <a href="https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180205110253_226.pdf">https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180205110253_226.pdf</a>	

### 5. Wouter Barendrecht Award

<b>Let Me Rest in Peace</b>	<b>Japan</b>
Director : YAMANAKA Yoko Producer : MIZOGUCHI Moeko Production Company : PIA Film Festival Detail : <a href="https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180124101501_1948.pdf">https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180124101501_1948.pdf</a>	

### 6. Network of Asian Fantastic Films Award

<b>IMAH (working title)</b>	<b>Indonesia, France</b>
Director : Eddie CAHYONO Producer : Ifa ISFANSYAH, Isabelle GLACHANT Production Company : Fourcolours Films, Shasha & Co Production Detail : <a href="https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117120607_1819.pdf">https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117120607_1819.pdf</a>	

### 7. Wutianming Post-Production Award

<b>Stonewalling</b>	<b>China</b>
Director : HUANG Ji Producer : OTSUKA Ryuji Production Company : Yellow-Green Pi Detail : <a href="https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117104212_1783.pdf">https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117104212_1783.pdf</a>	

## 8. White Light Post-Production Award

### White Light Post-Production Award (HAF Project)

#### Vengeance is Mine, All Others Pay Cash

Indonesia

Director : Edwin

Producer : Meiske TAURISIA, Muhammad ZAIDY, Lorna TEE

Production Company : Palari Films

Detail : [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117124227\\_1900.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180117124227_1900.pdf)

### White Light Post-Production Award (WIP Lab Project)

#### Mosaic Portrait

China

Director : ZHAI Yixiang

Producer : WANG Zijian, CHENG Rui

Production Company : Blackfin Production

Detail : [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204014411\\_205.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204014411_205.pdf)

## 9. G2D Post-Production Award

### G2D Post-Production Award (HAF Project)

#### The Big Picture

South Korea

Director : E J-yong

Producer : Jason CHAE, BAE Ja-hee (Associate Producer)

Production Company : Mirovision

Detail : [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180116201856\\_1702.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/project/20180116201856_1702.pdf)

### G2D Post-Production Award (WIP Lab Project)

#### AGANAI - The Atonement

Japan

Director : SAKAHARA Atsushi

Producer : SAKAHARA Atsushi

Production Company : Good People Inc.

Detail : [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180205110221\\_223.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180205110221_223.pdf)

## 10. "HAF Goes to Cannes" Shortlisted Projects

### (i) The Man Who Surprised Everyone

Russia, France, Estonia

Director: Natalya MERKULOVA, Alexey CHUPOV

Producer: Katia FILIPPOVA

Production Company: Pan-Atlantic Studio

Detail: [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180207121725\\_256.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180207121725_256.pdf)

### (ii) The Pencil

Russia

Director: Natalya NAZAROVA

Producer: Anastasia LUKOVNIKOVA

Production Company: Salt Studio

Detail: [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204014617\\_208.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204014617_208.pdf)

### (iii) Sister

Bulgaria

Director: Svetla TSOTSORKOVA

Producer: Svetoslav OVTCHAROV

Production Company: Omega Films

Detail: [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204015225\\_214.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204015225_214.pdf)

### (iv) The Sorcerer

Panama

Director: Félix GUARDIA

Producer: Tomás CORTÉS-ROSSELOT

Production Company: ANIMAL

Detail: [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204015411\\_217.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204015411_217.pdf)

**(v) Still Human**

**Hong Kong**

Director: Oliver CHAN Siu-kuen

Producer: Fruit CHAN

Production Company: No Ceiling Film Production Limited

Detail: [https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204015726\\_220.pdf](https://www.haf.org.hk/upload/files/wiplabproject/20180204015726_220.pdf)