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## 25 Critically-Acclaimed Asian Film Projects Selected for the 8<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum

[January 5, Hong Kong] The 8<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF), which will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from March 22 to 24, 2010, announced today a list of 25 selected outstanding film projects from across Asia and beyond.

HAF is organized by the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society (HKIFFS), committed to promoting the development of the Asian film industry by providing an important funding platform for film projects. In the last seven years, it has attracted renowned directors, producers, filmmakers and emerging filmmakers in Asia to participate, allowing them to gain support from investors from all parts of world. The selected film projects for this year's HAF come from 17 territories in Asia and other parts of the world, including the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Macao, Malaysia, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam.

These projects include productions from world-class talents such as **SUZUKI Seijun**, a veteran Japanese director known for his jarring visual style and entertainment-over-logic sensibility. His most famous work *Princess Raccoon* (2005) stars Zhang Ziyi and Joe Odagiri. Another featured talent is **Leon DAI**, whose *No Puedo Vivir Sin Ti* (2009) won four important awards at the Taiwan Golden Horse Awards 2009, including Best Director, Best Film, Best Original Screenplay and Outstanding Taiwanese Film of the Year. Other filmmakers include **HO Yuhang**, praised as the most talented new director in Malaysia, and **Dev BENEAL**, one of the few Indian native directors who makes films in English. His new film *Road, Movie* (2009) garnered several international awards before it officially opened in cinemas.

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The selected projects also include films produced by renowned directors, including: the winner of the highest prize, the Golden Lion Award at the Venice Film Festival **JIA Zhangke**; Hong Kong Film Awards and Taiwan Golden Horse Awards winner **Fruit CHAN**; Hong Kong director **Teddy CHEN**, acclaimed for his recent work *Bodyguards and Assassins* (2009) (HAF 2003), and **Ross KATZ**, the Oscar nominated director of *Lost in Translation* (2003).

Jacob Wong, Director of HAF, said, "As we can see, the films made possible by HAF in the past years have achieved excellent results, and this year we are seeing a lot of pan-regional co-productions. The selected projects, which were led by diverse talents from veterans to first-time directors will definitely spark new excitement in Asian films and focus the worldwide film industry on Asian productions. In fact, approximately one third of the selected projects have secured more than 50 percent funding before being selected by HAF, demonstrating unlimited market potential of Asian films and the high realization potential of the HAF selections."

HAF projects have been highly successful and internationally acclaimed. Some of the most notable include *Kinatay* (HAF 2009), which won the Best Director Award for **Brillante MENDOZA** at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Cannes Film Festival, and *Thirst* (HAF 2008), which was directed by **PARK Chan-wook** and awarded the Jury Prize at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Cannes Film Festival. Another outstanding film, *Mother* (HAF 2008) by **BONG Joon-ho**, had won multiple awards including Best Film at the Blue Dragon Film Awards 2009. *Tokyo Sonata* (HAF 2007), directed by renowned Japanese director **KUROSAWA Kiyoshi** and starring seasoned actors and actresses such as **KAGAWA Teruyuki**, **KOIZUMI Kyōko** and **YAKUSHO Kōji**, won the Jury Prize for the Un Certain Regard section of the 61<sup>st</sup> Cannes Film Festival, and the Best Film and Best Screenwriter awards at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Asian Film Awards.

For more HAF alumni projects accomplishments, please visit the official website at [www.haf.asia](http://www.haf.asia).

A complete listing of all 25 projects selected for HAF 2010 is included in Appendix I. An online project book with full project details will be available at the HAF website in mid-January.

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

Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) is widely recognized as one of the most important film-financing platforms in Asia. HAF brings Asian filmmakers with upcoming film projects to Hong Kong for co-production ventures with top film financiers, producers, investors, distributors and buyers. Attended by 1,000 filmmakers and financiers, more than 20 projects are selected to participate in this three-day event.

Past participants include Mainland China's JIA Jiangke, JIANG Wen and LOU Ye, Hong Kong's Stanley KWAN, Ann HUI, Gordon CHAN, PANG Ho-cheung, Taiwan's TSAI Ming-Liang, Japan's SABU, NAKATA Hideo, OTANI Kentaro, KORE-EDA Hirokazu, MIIKE Takashi and YUKISADA Isao, Korea's KIM Jee-woon, PARK Chan-wook, E J-yong and IM Sang-soo as well as Thailand's EKACHAI Uekrongtham, Nonzee NIMIBUTR and Pen-ek RATANARUANG.

For more information, please join the HAF Facebook community

at <http://www.facebook.com/haf.asia> or visit the HAF official website at <http://www.haf.asia>.

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

### Uniting the World through Film

The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society (HKIFFS) is a charitable, non-profit and non-governmental organization dedicated to the discovery and promotion of creativity in the art and culture of film. Through its year-round programs, 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 organizes three annual flagship events in March and April: Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF), Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) and 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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Released on behalf of the HKIFFS by Waggener Edstrom Worldwide.

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## APPENDIX I

1. Arrival, The	Singapore 新加坡
Director 導演:	TAN Pin-pin
Producer 監製:	TAN Pin-pin
Production Company 製作公司:	BFG Media
2. Betok	Malaysia 馬來西亞
Director 導演:	Sherman ONG
Producer 監製:	TAN Bee-thiam
Production Company 製作公司:	13 Little Pictures
3. Blood Of Wolves, The	Japan 日本
Director 導演:	SAKAGUCHI Tak 坂口 拓
Producer 監製:	SHIOMAKI Yuko 汐卷 裕子
Production Company 製作公司:	KUNIZANE Mizue Pictures Dept. LLP
4. Chang & Eng	Thailand /Singapore/USA 泰國/新加坡/美國
Director 導演:	Ekachai UEKRONGTHAM 呂翼謀
Producer 監製:	Ekachai UEKRONGTHAM 呂翼謀
Production Company 製作公司:	Spicy Apple Films
5. Cosplay	Chinese mainland, the/France 中國內地/法國
Director 導演:	SHENG Zhimin 盛志民
Producer 監製:	Olivier MILLE
Production Company 製作公司:	Fruit CHAN 陳果 Artlinefilms
6. Dear Comrade (working title)	Japan/South Korea/Vietnam 日本/南韓/越南
Director 導演:	LEE Yoon-ki 李胤基
Producer 監製:	TOYOYAMA Yuki 豐山 有紀
Production Company 製作公司:	Sean SHIN 申勝植 Esprit Inc.

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7. Enchanter, The	Hong Kong/Chinese mainland, the/Macao 香港/中國內地/澳門
Director 導演: Producer 監製: Production Company 製作公司:	KWOK Tsz-kin 郭子健 Teddy CHEN 陳德森 Sum-Wood Productions Limited
8. Exit to Exist	South Korea 南韓
Director 導演: Producer 監製: Production Company 製作公司:	JEON Yun-su 田允秀 Peter CHU 朱弼鎬 Jupiter Film, Sidus FNH
9. Housekeeping	Lebanon 黎巴嫩
Director 導演: Producer 監製: Production Company 製作公司:	Mazen KHALED Paul LEE ii Films
10. I Love You So Much	Taiwan 台灣
Director 導演: Producer 監製: Production Company 製作公司:	Leon DAI 戴立忍 LIU Wei-Jan 劉蔚然 Atom Cinema
11. Immense Floating Life, The (working title)	Vietnam 越南
Director 導演: Producer 監製: Production Company 製作公司:	Binh NGUYEN PHAN QUANG Hanh NGO THI BICH Vietnam Studio & Feature Film No.1
12. Light of Darkness (working title)	Chinese mainland, the 中國內地
Director 導演: Producer 監製: Production Company 製作公司:	ZHAO Ye 趙擘 Helen CUI 崔紅 Tianlin Film Productions

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13. Mama Eva

Hong Kong/Chinese mainland, the/Switzerland  
 香港/中國內地/瑞士

Director 導演:

Kit HUNG 洪榮傑

Producer 監製:

LAM Yat-fung 林一峰

Kit HUNG 洪榮傑

Production Company 製作公司:

Keep In Touch Company

14. Mythteries

Japan 日本

Director 導演:

TEZKA Macoto 手塚 真

Producer 監製:

HIRASAWA Sho 平澤 匠

Production Company 製作公司:

PaxEterna Limited

15. Nanjing East Road

Taiwan/Singapore 台灣/新加坡

Director 導演:

Arvin CHEN 陳駿霖

Producer 監製:

LEE In-Ah 李仁兒

Production Company 製作公司:

Greenskyfilms

16. Past Love

Thailand/USA 泰國/美國

Director 導演:

Lee CHATAMETIKOOL

Producer 監製:

Anocha SUWICHAKORNPONG

Production Company 製作公司:

Electric Eel Films, Houdini Studio

17. Private Party of the Dead

Hong Kong 香港

Director 導演:

CHUI Tien-you 徐天佑

Producer 監製:

PANG Ho-cheung 彭浩翔

Production Company 製作公司:

Making Film Productions Limited

18. Samurai

India/USA 印度/美國

Director 導演:

Dev BENEGAL

Producer 監製:

Dev BENEGAL

Ross KATZ

Production Company 製作公司:

August Entertainment

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