For Immediate Release:

THE 2016 ASIAN WORLD FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES OPENING AND CLOSING NIGHT FILMS

Opening Night Gala Will Debut Ali and Nino on October 24th and Closing Night Will Present Operation Chromite on November 1st

CULVER CITY, Sept. 28, 2016 — The 2nd Annual Asian World Film Festival has selected Asif Kapadia’s Ali and Nino as its opening night film, to be screened on October 24 at the Culver City ArcLight Cinema. Kapadia won the 2016 Documentary Feature Oscar® (with James Gay-Rees) for Amy, his documentary about Amy Winehouse. The closing night film presented will be South Korea’s Operation Chromite, starring Liam Neeson as General Douglas MacArthur, to be screened on November 1st. For schedules and ticket information: www.asianworldfilmfest.org

Ali and Nino, tells the love story of a young Muslim Azerbaijani nobleman (Adam Bakri) and a Christian Georgian princess (Maria Valverde) during the turbulent period after World War 1 and the rise of Communism. The film also stars Mandy Patinkin.

Festival Director, Georges Chamchoum, said, “We wanted to screen Ali and Nino as our opening film, as we believe it captures the very spirit of the Festival. At the heart of the film, a young couple comes together despite their cultural backgrounds. Moreover, this is a film that is directed by Asif Kapadia, a British filmmaker of Indian descent, was shot in the Azerbaijani, Russian and English languages, filmed in Azerbaijan and Turkey, and the lead actor is Palestinian born Adam Bakri (from the Oscar® nominated movie Omar). This is what AWFF is all about — excellence in cross-cultural filmmaking and championing talent from the Asian continent.”

In Operation Chromite General Douglas MacArthur (Liam Neeson) sends eight members of the Korean Liaison Office, on a secret mission far behind North Korean lines. This covert operation must succeed so that MacArthur can launch the daring Inchon Landing Operation. The movie is based on true events but fictionalized. It is an epic war drama that takes you on a breathless thrill ride.

Adds Chamchoum: “A real crowd pleaser, Operation Chromite is the best way to close our Festival. It’s directed with brio by one of South Korean master filmmakers, John H. Lee.”

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About the Asian World Film Festival
The Asian World Film Festival (AWFF) brings the best of a broad selection of Asian World cinema to Los Angeles in order to draw greater recognition to the region’s wealth of filmmakers, strengthening ties between the Asian and Hollywood film industries. Uniting through cross-cultural collaboration, our festival champions films from 51 countries across Asia spanning from Turkey to Japan and Russia to India and the Middle East. All films that participate in the Festival will have a unique chance to be guided through the challenging awards season, showcasing their foreign films to the Motion Picture Academy, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association and all Guilds for enhanced exposure, media attention and awards consideration. AWFF is a non-profit organization under Aitysh USA.

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PRESS CONTACTS AT WEISSMAN/MARKOVITZ COMMUNICATIONS:
Leonard Morpurgo Cheri Warner
leonard@publicity4all.com cheri@publicity4all.com
m: 818-731-3513 o: 818-937-4355
m: 818-390-0999