FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

THE ASIAN WORLD FILM FESTIVAL NAMES LISA LU AS THE JURY PRESIDENT
TEN OSCAR AND THREE GOLDEN GLOBE FOREIGN LANGUAGE SUBMISSIONS IN FESTIVAL CONTENTION
Festival Opens in Culver City Oct. 25 – Nov 2

LOS ANGELES, October 11, 2017 -- The Third Annual Asian World Film Festival (AWFF) has named internationally renowned veteran of film, television and stage, Lisa Lu as the head of the festival’s official jury. Lu’s credits include the upcoming release, Crazy Rich Asians, Oscar winner, The Last Emperor and the iconic, The Joy Luck Club.

Lu will be joined by other international jury members including multiple Oscar nominated director, Sergei Bodrov (Russia), actress and international Emmy nominee Tuba Büyüküstün, (Turkey), US actor Cade Carradine, who is featured in the opening night film Ayla: The Daughter of War, actor and director, Thomas Lim (China/Singapore), and U.S. actor Michael Nouri, Vietnamese actress, singer and philanthropist Ha Phuong, filmmaker and director of Cambodia Town Film Festival, Caylee So (Thailand), US music composer Nathan Wang (US) and Nancy Wang Yeun, Ph.D. (US) socialist, documentary producer and author of Reel Inequality: Hollywood Actors and Racism. For further information on the Jurors
FILMS IN THE 2017 FESTIVAL COMPETITION:
All films selected by their countries as Oscar or Golden Globe contenders are automatically invited to participate at the Film Festival. The Hollywood Foreign Press Association recognizes selected showings as the required official screenings for their members who vote on the Golden Globes. At last year’s event, some 30 films from 27 countries participated.

The Oscar submitted films in this year’s competition are: Pomegranate Orchard (Azerbaijan), The Dark Wind (Iraq), White Sun (Nepal), By the Time It Gets Dark (Thailand), Centaur (Kyrgyzstan), Turah (Indonesia), Saawan (Pakistan), A Taxi Driver (S. Korea), Scary Mother (Georgia), Mad World (Hong Kong.)

The Golden Globe submissions are: Yellow (Iran), Listen (Lebanon), How Victor “The Garlic” Took Alexey “The Stud” to the Nursing Home (Russia). Also in competition is the Sri Lankan film Burning Birds. For A Complete List of Festival Screenings

A number of special awards will be handed out during the festival including the Cinematic Achievement Award which will be awarded by the Jury. The festival will host a special 25th Anniversary screening of The Joy Luck Club on Oct. 29 which will be followed by a Q & A with cast members and producers.

All films will be screened at the Arclight Cinemas in Downtown Culver City (9500 Culver Blvd.) To purchase tickets

ABOUT THE ASIAN WORLD FILM FESTIVAL

Sponsors include Presenting Partner Ha Phuong Foundation, as well as the city of Culver City, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, Variety, East West Bank, RK Media (Radio & TV Korea), the Arclight Theatres and Emporium Thai Restaurant (Los Angeles) and AWFF host venue, the historic Culver Hotel.

AWFF recently partnered with The Snow Leopard Trust to raise awareness for the endangered snow leopard and its ecosystem in the high mountains of Asia. The Film Festival’s main cinematic award is named after the snow leopard. Snow Leopard Trust

The Asian World Film Festival (AWFF) brings the best of a broad selection of Asian World cinema to Los Angeles 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 over 50 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, and showcased for 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. www.AsianWorldFilmFest.org

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