THE FILM PRODUCTION COMPANY ‘AITYSH FILM’ WAS FOUNDED BY PUBLIC FIGURE, PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR SADYK SHERNIYAZ IN 2006 IN BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN AS A BRANCH OF AITYSH PUBLIC FUND.

Today Aitysh Film is one of the leading production studios in Kyrgyzstan, which is fully equipped with modern material and technical base, corresponding to world standards. Studio employees are experienced and creative professionals who have repeatedly proved their level of professionalism not only in Kyrgyzstan, but also abroad. The studio consists of a cinematography, sound recording, dubbing and editing, post-production workshops. The studio is engaged in the production of feature, animated and documentary films for television, as well as high-quality and popular audio video products, such as social, image, commercials, music videos, video presentations, audio clips and dubbing.
ENJOY A PERFECT HOLLYWOOD ENDING RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING.

We've removed distractions like advertising, late entries, and noisy popcorn bags—so you can sit back, relax and enjoy your movie-time.

YOUR MOVIE-TIME. UNINTERRUPTED.

BUILDING A DIVERSE COMMUNITY THROUGH ARTS AND CULTURE

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 50 countries across Asia spanning from Turkey to Japan and Russia to India.

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 Oscar® Academy, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association and all Guilds for enhanced exposure, media attention and awards consideration.

The Asian World Film Festival is organized under Aitysh USA, a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization.

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PROUD SPONSOR OF THE ASIAN WORLD FILM FESTIVAL
Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Culver City, I am pleased to welcome the fourth annual Asian World Film Festival to our community!

First as Commissioner of Cultural Affairs and now as Mayor, helping to bring the Asian World Film Festival to Culver City is one of my proudest accomplishments. We often hear that Culver City is the place where the cities of the world will come to see their future, and this festival has become a model event for us. The Asian World Film Festival celebrates global outreach, inclusion and diversity in a profound, innovative, and authentic way. The festival unites our communities across the planet, bringing the Asian world to Culver City, and Culver City to the world.

Over the last three years, Culver City has been honored to host the festival and support its mission of bringing Asian cinema to the greater Los Angeles area. In that short time, the Festival has become a beloved cultural and community event that brings films from over 50 countries across Asia to Culver City. We salute the Festival’s pursuit of showcasing Asian filmmakers through innovation and cross-cultural collaboration.

The creative economy has played an important role in Culver City since the City’s incorporation in 1917, and we are pleased to carry on the tradition of being a center of filmmaking, technology, and imagination. We look forward to an exceptional 2018 Festival and the continued success of the Asian World Festival for many years to come!

Sincerely,

Thomas Aujero Small
Mayor

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Dear Festivalgoers

I am extremely happy to welcome you to this fourth edition of the Asian World Film Festival and hope that you will all enjoy the wide selection of films from countries across the Asian Continent.

Apart from our usual line-up of Oscar and Golden Globe submissions for Best Foreign Language Film, we are also including an exciting program of films within our Signature Screening Series, featuring Korea Film Days, now in its fourth year, Turkey Film Days, Saudi Film Day and Philippines Film Day.

The theme of this year’s Festival is female empowerment and the role of women in Asian Cinema. It is therefore fitting that all our Honorees are women. The veteran, award-winning, Chinese actress Lisa Lu, known for her amazing performances in The Last Emperor and Joy Luck Club, will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award and actress and rapper Awkwafina, who starred in two of this year’s top films, Ocean’s 8 and Crazy Rich Asians, will be presented with the Rising Star Award. This year’s Cinematic Legacy Award will go to actress Yifei Liu who will soon be starring in Disney’s highly anticipated live action film Mulan and Indian actress Freida Pinto, star of the Oscar-winning film Slumdog Millionaire, will receive the Courage to Dream Award. I am also honored that Roza Otunbayeva, the former President of Kyrgyzstan and the first female President of Central Asia, will be attending the Festival and receiving an official proclamation from the City of Los Angeles and a Certificate from the City of Culver City.

Kyrgyzstan has a rich history of cinema and last year we were honored to present the renowned, award-winning Kyrgyz cinematographer, Murat Aliyev, with the Cinematic Legacy Award. This year we are honored to be celebrating the 90th anniversary of the birth of Kyrgyz writer Chingiz Aitmatov by holding a special Chingiz Aitmatov Day where we will screen a number of films based upon his works. We have also created a new AWFF award, the Chingiz Aitmatov Advancement of Culture Award which will be presented each year to a distinguished person who has significantly contributed to the culture of their country. The first recipient of the award will be the award-winning Turkish actress Turkan Soray who starred in The Girl with the Red Scarf, based upon one of Chingiz Aitmatov’s most famous stories.

I very much look forward to seeing you all in Culver City, the heart of screenland, to celebrate this unique event which I firmly believe will be our best Festival yet!

Yours warmly,

Sadyk Sher-Niyaz
Founder and CEO
Greetings Friends and Film Enthusiasts!
Greetings Lovers of Life - because Cinema is Life!

Le Cinema C'est la Vie!

Within just four years our Festival has grown beyond anyone’s imagination. We have reached over a billion people through our extensive Social Media!

Nothing is achieved without struggle, blood, sweat and tears. We have gone through all these emotions and we have overcome. We have overcome because we have Faith in our Mission. We Believe in our Mission. Doubts and skepticism, we leave to others...

People have come up to me and said, “You have a small Festival. You need glamour and glitter!” To these people I answer: “We have bigger and better than Glamour and Glitter! We have amazing Films! We have incredible talented Filmmakers who come from all four corners of the Asian Continent! And let’s not forget the amazing force of the Asian American Entertainment Community!”

AWFF represents over 50 Countries which illuminate the Hollywood landscape with their blinding light! Over 50 languages and hundreds of dialects which speak one language and one dialect: the language of Cinema!

Our Fourth Edition is bigger and bolder than ever. Our Fourth Edition will take you to Horizons that you never knew existed. AWFF will take you on a journey of dreams, wonder and discovery!

AWFF is your family! We are one family, with a Dream that blends with Reality. We are a family that knows how to celebrate, in every possible way, passion for the Seventh Art. We are a family with a vision.

My dedicated Team and myself will be amongst you, to welcome you with open arms and hearts and to share these exciting and unforgettable moments!

AWFF is here to stay!
Together we can make a difference!

Yours cinematically,

Georges Chamchoum
Executive & Program Director
With partners from China and the U.S, MoRedii builds platforms and develops strategies for clients who wish to break out of the mold. Using a combination of media, social media, digital marketing, and event planning, we tailor the best practices to each of your individual needs to expand your business potential overseas. Reaching out to an untapped market will no longer be impossible.

MoRedii proudly presents
YOUNG FILMMAKERS SHOWCASE
Curated by MATCH

Monday, October 29, 2018 | 6pm - 9pm | ArcLight Culver City

In the presence of
Her Excellency Roza Otunbayeva, former President of Kyrgyzstan
&
the Honorable Vice Mayor of Culver City Meghan Sahli-Wells

Dear friends!

Cinema offers the most influential form of art, for its unique ability to mirror reality, including people, events and traditions. I applaud the efforts of this festival to capture the character and people of a prodigious continent, which spans more than fifty countries. My country Kyrgyzstan represents one of the young nations of Central Asia. It is known as the “Island of Democracy”, where many famous cinematographers have originated.

I am happy to participate in this film festival, which successfully launched in Culver City three years ago and rapidly gained great fame around the world. We, developing countries, aim to strengthen our governments and the creative industry supports economic development and diplomacy, through film, expression and art. At its core, cinematography is an effective form of “soft power”, whose energy and influence is indisputable, as it depicts country, people, culture and spirituality. I am glad to invite all viewers to a screening of works by the great Kyrgyz author, Chyngyz Aitmatov, as part of the Asian World Film Festival. His name is widely known throughout the world. This year would have marked his 90th birthday.

I am confident that there is a big future ahead for the Asian World Film Festival. Its greatness will be a significant contribution to the recognition of all peoples of this continent, to the strengthening of peace, mutual understanding, and tolerance of people. The modern world needs these types of festivals! My words are of deep admiration and gratitude to the founders and the strong team of organizers of such a grand event like the Asian World Film Festival!

Welcome to the festival! I wish you success in your fourth season!

Roza Otunbayeva
Former President of the Kyrgyz Republic
Dear Friends,

A Heartfelt congratulation to the 4th anniversary of Asian World Film Festival! SOOM Foundation is honored to be a presenting sponsor of the Asian World Film Festival and a great pleasure to have the opportunity to support the event in Culver City, California this year. We are very excited to see so many enthusiastic men and women to celebrate the artistically valued films.

SOOM Foundation has been searching for a way to contribute and participate in the film industry. For many years of research and development, we proudly present innovating platform, CRP - the multimedia content platform that links creators, producers and investors through video streaming, collaborative matching communities, crowd funding and coin exchange based on 4th blockchain technology.

SOOM Foundation recognized the Asian World Film Festival as a meeting place for an enthusiastic audience and filmmakers from throughout the world. There are only a few festivals that are able to present with such a perfect mix: an excellent film selection in competitions, and special programs, many interesting guests from near and far, movie theaters with tradition, an interested audience, good atmosphere and lively parties. We look forward to become a continuous partner of Asian World Film Festival. We acknowledged the remarkably energetic festival team is able to create an innovative film program. We would like to thank those responsible, many of whom are volunteers, for creating such an important festivity and a special thank you to the film team for the exemplary organization. We wish all the best to all those involved and wish the Asian World Film Festival continued success.

Sincerely,

Richard Kia. B
SOOM Foundation
Founder/President/CEO

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**ASIAN WORLD INDUSTRY FORUM**

**STREAMING: THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT PANEL**

Netflix, Amazon, Hulu, Youtube, IQIYI, Youku, Tudou, HotStar, Jio, Illis and countless other OTT platforms are able to reach more viewers around the world than ever before. How does this rapidly growing distribution technology and the voracious appetite for content shape the future of entertainment? How will "old" media respond?

- **Date:** 10:00 am – 11:15 am, Friday, October 26th
- **Location:** Culver Hotel

**PANELISTS:**
- Sophia You, Partner, Manatt, Phelps & Philips, LLP
- Winnie Kemp, SVF Originals, Super Deluxe / Turner
- Tracy McGrath, Physical Production, Amazon Original Movies

**ASIA - HOLLYWOOD PANEL**

China remains of strategic importance to Hollywood. However, much has changed since the euphoria of the last few years. India, Korea and Southeast Asia are experiencing booming economies and with it a dynamic media landscape. Asia is where the growth is, whether for Hollywood product or local language production. This panel will explore which collaboration models have worked and what the challenges are going forward. Topics will include content and IP, production, talent, financing, distribution including new digital platforms, investment, legal considerations, censorship and how to overcome cross-cultural challenges.

- **Date:** 11:30 am – 12:45 pm, Friday, October 26th
- **Location:** Culver Hotel

**PANELISTS:**
- Xian Li, Imagine Pictures, Crazy Rich Asians
- Bennett Pozzi, EVP, East West Bank
- Lindsay Conner, Partner & Chair, Media & Entertainment Group, Manatt, Phelps & Philips
- Alex Dong, CEO of Sun Entertainment Culture Ltd.
- Moderator: Rick Ambros, Principal, Pacific Horizon Pictures & Asia Media Consultant

**WOMEN IN ASIAN FILM PANEL**

2018 is the Year of Women in Film and Asians in Film. Whether Crazy Rich Asians or local language films from Asian countries, this panel will explore the increasing roles Asian and Asian-American women have been playing as actors, producers, writers, directors and executives in shaping the future of film.

- **Date:** 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm, Friday, October 26th
- **Location:** Culver Hotel

**PANELISTS:**
- Tina Gue, Cellist and Composer, CEO of G&T Industries
- Debra Bergman, Senior VP, Paramount TV
- Deeqil Chee, Haual NTDC - Distribution/Syndication/Marketing
- Sasha Gradiva, Singer, Songwriter, Producer and Award Winning Director
- Melqui Tuna, Assistant Director, Warner Bros Entertainment
- Susan Cartsonis, Producer and President of Storefront Pictures
- Xian Li, Ivanhoe Pictures, Crazy Rich Asians

**MODERATOR:** Julie Harris Walker, Speaker, Producer & Host of the Podcast The Other 50%

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**BRINGING BLOCKCHAIN TO THE FILM INDUSTRY**

With the ambition of tackling entertainment industry’s inherent inefficiencies and the issues arising from the streaming and VoD market’s rapid growth, industry leaders have begun to look at blockchain technology. This panel will explore the solutions that blockchain has to offer and will be the occasion to introduce one of them called Creative Rocket Platform (CRP). CRP is a multi-media content platform which connects creators, producers and consumers. By taking advantages of the new possibilities offered by 4th blockchain technology, CRP wish to create a fair, transparent and efficient ecosystem from original content creation to distribution.

- **Date:** 4:30 pm – 5:45 pm, Friday, October 26th
- **Location:** TBD

**PANELISTS:**
- Richard Kia, Park, Founder of SOOM Foundation
- Antoine Guinot, Global operation manager of CRP
- George N. Chamchoum, Executive & Program Director of AWFF
- Takhee Han, Film Producer and Director of Development of AWFF
- Moderator: Charles Choe, Marketing Director of AWFF

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**FILMMAKER PANEL - FEATURING DIRECTORS ATTENDING THIS YEAR’S AWFF**

Directors of the Foreign Language Oscar and Golden Globe submitted films taking part in this year’s AWFF discuss their films and the challenges, opportunities and new trends of filmmaking in their specific regions.

- **Date:** 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm, Friday, October 26th
- **Location:** Culver Hotel

**PANELISTS:**
- TBD

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**ASIAN WORLD ENTERTAINMENT FORUM**

**ASIA – HOLLYWOOD PANEL**

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- Takhee Han, Film Producer and Director of Development of AWFF

**MODERATOR:** Charles Choe, Marketing Director of AWFF
Asian World Film Festival

In partnership with the Tiffany Circle American Red Cross presents:

The Courage to Dream Award

The ‘Courage to Dream Award’ is presented each year to a person of Asian descent, in recognition of their career accomplishments and their philanthropic endeavors. Each recipient is selected because not only have they had the courage to dream but they have also, through hard work and determination, achieved those dreams and gone on to utilize their success and platform for the good of others.

Past recipients include

• 2015: Kimberly Cheng – Reporter for KTLA
• 2016: Dr. Tae Yun Kim – CEO, author, and entrepreneur
• 2017: Hannah An – Chef and Owner of some of Los Angeles’ most successful restaurants, including The District by Hannah An

This year we are honoring the Indian actress Freida Pinto for her undeniable career successes, including the award-winning films Slumdog Millionaire and Rise of the Planet of The Apes. Her dedicated humanitarian work with women and underprivileged children is in line with the theme of this year’s Asian World Film Festival, female empowerment, and we are thrilled to honor such an exceptional woman who champions women and women’s causes.

Chingiz Aitmatov
Advancement of Culture Award

Chingiz Aitmatov was a Soviet-Kyrgyz author and statesman and one of the best known figures in Kyrgyzstan’s literature. His works have been translated into more than 150 languages across the world and several of his stories turned into popular films. In 1995 he became Kyrgyzstan’s ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands and also represented his home country in the European Union, NATO and UNESCO.

The Chingiz Aitmatov Advancement of Culture Award is a new AWFF award and will be presented each year to a distinguished entertainer, writer or cultural figure who has significantly contributed to the development and progression of their country’s Culture.

This year, the first award will go to the popular award-winning Turkish actress, screenwriter and director Turkan Soray who has starred in the most feature films for a female actress worldwide, with 222 films to her name. She played the lead in the 1977 Turkish romantic drama film The Girl with the Red Scarf, based on a story by Aitmatov.

LISA LU,
Lifetime Achievement

This year’s Snow Leopard Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Chinese actress Lisa Lu, an internationally renowned veteran of film, television and stage. Lisa has worked in the United States and China across a multitude of English and Chinese productions and has shown great versatility in her style, allowing her to take on a large scope of productions ranging from modern drama to Chinese Opera and Southern Kun Qu. Her film career took off in the 1970’s with supporting roles in Demon Seed and Peter Bogdanovich’s Saint Jack and during this period she received three Best Actress Golden Horse Awards for her Chinese-language films The Arch, The Empress Dowager and The Fourteen Amazons. Her well-known films include Disney’s The Joy Luck Club and Bernardo Bertolucci’s Academy Award-winning The Last Emperor.

Lisa was featured in 100 Chinese Motion Picture Stars in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of motion picture making worldwide and her Chinese film, Apart Together, opened the 2010 Berlin Film Festival. Her latest film is this summer’s smash hit Crazy Rich Asians which has become the highest-grossing romantic comedy of the last 10 years.

HONOREES

Georges Chamchoum, the Festival’s Executive and Program Director, said, “I am thrilled and delighted that we are honoring such a wonderful and talented actress as Lisa, at this year’s Asian World Film Festival. The theme of the Festival this year is female empowerment and the role of women in Asian film and it is therefore extremely fitting that our Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to this outstanding, phenomenal actress.” Lisa is currently filming the drama A Dream of Red Mansions in London, which is being directed by the Chinese film director Hu Mei.
Yifei Liu, Chinese-American actress, model and singer, will receive this year’s AWFF Cinematic Legacy Award.

Following her admittance into Beijing Film Academy, Yifei received offers to star in various television series and in 2005, she starred in Chinese Paladin, a fantasy action drama which earned a cult following and solidified her popularity in China.

After achieving success in television, Yifei ventured onto the big screen and in 2008 she was cast in her first Hollywood production, The Forbidden Kingdom. She won her first major acting award for the Best Actress award at the 5th Macau International Movie Festival for the historical film The Assassins (2012). She starred in Chinese-South Korean co-production, The Third Way of Love (2015), a romantic melodrama, her performance winning her the Most Anticipated Actress award at the 16th Chinese Film Media Awards and in 2016, starred in the romantic film Night Peacock for which she was nominated for Best Actress.

She also starred in the historical film In Harm’s Way directed by Bille August. The film premiered at the Shanghai International Film Festival as the opening film and Yifei was nominated as Best Actress. In November 2017, she was cast as Mulan in the live-action adaptation of the 1998 Disney animated film, which is set to be released in 2020.

American actress and rapper Awkwafina will be honored with the Snow Leopard Rising Star Award at the Asian World Film Festival’s Closing Night Gala Ceremony.

Earlier this year, Awkwafina was seen in Warner Bros’ box office hit Ocean’s 8 which was directed by Gary Ross and featured an ensemble cast including Sandra Bullock, Cate Blanchett, Anne Hathaway, Sarah Paulson, Rihanna and Helena Bonham Carter. She is soon set to star in the indie drama Paradise Hills opposite Emma Roberts and Milla Jovovich, as well as an untitled film written and directed by Lulu Wang.

Noted for the satire of her hilarious original music, Awkwafina became an internet sensation in 2012 with her viral video “My Vag.” She later made her feature film debut in the comedy Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising, with Seth Rogen, Zac Efron and Rose Byrne. She was also heard as the voice of Quail in the 2016 animated adventure Storks.
WE THANK OUR PARTNERS

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FESTIVAL PARTNERS
VIVIAN WU - JURY PRESIDENT
ACTRESS / PRODUCER
Vivian Wu was born in Shanghai, China. She started acting aged 15 with the Shanghai People's Art Theatre and later attended Hawaii Pacific University. While in high school in Shanghai, she was discovered by Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci and chosen to play second wife Wen Hsiu in his Oscar-winning The Last Emperor (1987). The role won her a Best Supporting Actress nomination at the Italian Academy Awards and launched her English speaking acting career. In 1993 Vivian was cast by director Oliver Stone in Heaven & Earth and then by Wayne Wang in The Joy Luck Club. Since then she has been working constantly in films and television and is one of the most well-known and respected Chinese international movie stars.

Recent projects include Bille August’s In Harm’s Way in which she stars opposite Emile Hirsch and Yifei Liu, and Annie Yi’s comedy I Am the Queen, which has earned her rave reviews and a Best Supporting Actress award at the 2016 Chinese American Film Festival. Vivian also stars in Cathy Yan’s feature film Dead Pigs which premiered at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival and won the Special Jury Prize in the World Cinema category.

SILVIA BIZIO, PRODUCER / CO-DIRECTOR OF THE TAORMINA FILM FESTIVAL
Journalist, writer and producer Silvia Bizio writes about film for the daily newspaper “La Repubblica” and weekly magazines “F” and “O”. She is also a member of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association which runs the Golden Globes. Graduating from the University of Rome, she earned her Master’s Degree in Sociology and Mass Communication at UCLA. She has written several books including “Los Angeles Babillon” and “Cinema Italian Style" a history of Italian Cinema at the Academy Awards and won the first award as best film correspondent by the American Publicist Union. She has been the Artistic Director of Cinema Italian Style, a series of contemporary Italian movies, from 2004 to 2010, and is now co-director of the Taormina Film Festival. Her first short movie as a producer, The Nightshift Belongs to the Stars, (2012) directed by Edoardo Ponti and starring Nastassja Kinski was shortlisted for the Academy Awards and was the Best Short winner at the Tribeca Film Festival.

KIMBERLY CHENG, REPORTER / ACTRESS (USA)
Kimberly Cheng was born in the USA but her ethnic background includes Cambodian and Chinese. Her parents and siblings arrived in the USA as refugees after being forced to escape their homeland following years of torture and genocide under the Pol Pot regime. Without speaking a word of English and without any money, her family started a new life. Kimberly graduated from the University of Southern California where she earned a double-degree in broadcast journalism and political science. After graduating she worked for a prominent residential and commercial real estate developer and later began work as an anchor, reporter and Red Carpet host at the ABC affiliate in Phoenix and the CBS affiliate in Palm Springs. She is now a reporter on KTLA 5 News.

JUSTIN CHON, DIRECTOR / WRITER / ACTOR (USA)
Justin Chon is an award-winning director, writer and actor. He was born and raised in Seoul, South Korea and attended USC where he began his acting career. He has had starring roles in the films Seoul Searching, Revenge of the Green Dragon and 21 and Over and is known worldwide by film audiences for his role as Eric Yorkie in the Twilight franchise through film Gook, which he wrote, directed, and starred in, which won the Best of Next! Audience Award at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival. He also won the Kiehl’s Someone to Watch Award at the 2018 Film Independent Spirit Awards. Justin is currently in partnership with MACRO to write and direct an untitled feature starting later this year.

ALEX DONG, PRODUCER / EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (HONG KONG)
Alex Dong is the CEO of Sun Entertainment Culture Ltd. which has financed, produced and distributed over 100 films, grossing over $1 billion at the box office. Since 2013 he has been the producer and executive producer of over 40 films, including recent box office successes and multi-award-winning films: Paradux ($83m) and Chasing the Dragon ($93m).

ELEONORA GRANATA JENKINSON, PRODUCER (ITALY/USA)
With her extraordinarily deep and varied background in managing and marketing film and cultural ventures on both sides of the Atlantic, Eleonora brings a global network of artistic and business alliances to her endeavors as a producer, film festival program- mer, and international PR, marketing and distribution consultant. She has worked as Vice President and Head of the Film Co-productions and Acquisitions division at Turner Pictures and served as Senior Vice President at Pandora Films, where she was responsible for film productions and acquisitions. She began her career with RCS Films and Television in Italy, where she headed their worldwide acquisitions and productions from Los Angeles. She served for seven years as the U.S. representative and program advisor for the Venice Film Festival and was also the senior programmer of world dramatic features for the Miami International Film Festival. She currently serves as the Director’s advisor for the Tallinn Black Night International Film Festival and runs her company Melogramo, which integrates film co-production and acquisitions, film festival consulting, PR and marketing for its clients.

SAM LAHOUD, FOUNDING CHAIR OF BEIRUT FILM SOCIETY (LEBANON)
Sam Lahoud is a screenwriter, director, producer, script consultant and lecturer in Film, Theatre and Media. He started his career in 1996, and since then has written, directed and produced numerous works, many of which have received national and international recognition and awards. His first feature film Waynon (Void) was the Lebanese official submission for the 2016 Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film.

Sam is the Founding Director of the NDU International Film Festival and Beirut International Women Film Festival, the Founder and Program Director of the Lebanese Film Festival in Canada and the Founding Chair of the Beirut Film Society. He is also a Board Member of the Silk Road Film Festival in Dublin, the Middle East representative for the Asian World Film Festival in Los Angeles and has served as a jury member in various local and international film festivals and competitions.

DALMIRA TILPEBERGEN, WRITER/DIRECTOR (KYRGYZSTAN)
Dalmaria is a film director, screenwriter and poet with more than 20 years’ experience of working in film and literature. After completing a post graduate film course in Moscow she made numerous documentaries and short films in Russia and Kyrgyzstan. Her first feature film Under Heaven has been screened at many international film festivals in Canada, USA, Mexico, Kazakhstan, Japan, Turkey, India, Nepal, China, Portugal, Sweden, Russia, France, Switzerland, UK, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Canada, and Israel. The film has won several awards and prizes. In 2015, at the Montreal World Film Festival, it received a Special Jury mention for best feature film debut and at the Bengaluru International Film Festival, won the Grand-Prix as well as the NETPAC prize. At the New York International Film Festival the film won the Jury prize, whilst in Yalta (Russia) it won the award for Best Actor.

Dalmaria’s poems and stories have been translated into German, Chinese, English, Finnish, Azerbaijani, Korean and many other languages. In addition, she is a member of NETPAC (Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema), the Director’s Guild of Russia and the Union of Filmmakers in Kyrgyzstan.

REPORTER / ACTRESS (USA)
KIMBERLY CHENG, began work as an anchor, reporter and Red Carpet host at the ABC affiliate in Phoenix and later earned a double-degree in broadcast journalism and political science. After graduating she worked for a prominent residential and commercial real estate developer and later began work as an anchor, reporter and Red Carpet host at the ABC affiliate in Phoenix and the CBS affiliate in Palm Springs. She is now a reporter on KTLA 5 News.

Dalmira is a film director, screenwriter and poet with more than 20 years’ experience of working in film and literature. After completing a post graduate film course in Moscow she made numerous documentaries and short films in Russia and Kyrgyzstan. Her first feature film Under Heaven has been screened at many international film festivals in Canada, USA, Mexico, Kazakhstan, Japan, Turkey, India, Nepal, China, Portugal, Sweden, Russia, France, Switzerland, UK, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Canada, and Israel. The film has won several awards and prizes. In 2015, at the Montreal World Film Festival, it received a Special Jury mention for best feature film debut and at the Bengaluru International Film Festival, won the Grand-Prix as well as the NETPAC prize. At the New York International Film Festival the film won the Jury prize, whilst in Yalta (Russia) it won the award for Best Actor.

Dalmaria’s poems and stories have been translated into German, Chinese, English, Finnish, Azerbaijani, Korean and many other languages. In addition, she is a member of NETPAC (Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema), the Director’s Guild of Russia and the Union of Filmmakers in Kyrgyzstan.
SYNOPSIS:
The film is the harrowing account of two sisters robbed of their innocence when one is sold by her debt-ridden father, and the other follows after her in the hope of rescuing her but becomes trapped in the flesh trade herself.

Presented by:

MORedi

SYNOPSIS:
Burning is a searing examination of an alienated young man, Jongsu, a frustrated introvert whose already difficult life is complicated by the appearance of two people into his orbit: Haemi, a spirited woman who offers romantic possibility and Ben, a wealthy and sophisticated young man with whom she returns from a trip abroad. When Jongsu learns of Ben’s mysterious hobby and Haemi suddenly disappears, his confusion and obsessions begin to mount, culminating in a stunning finale.

Presented by:

Korean Cultural Center
Los Angeles
SYNOPSIS:
In the 1940s, a WWII American Air Force pilot, Jack Turner, makes an emergency landing in China after a bombing run on Tokyo. He is rescued by a young Chinese widow named Ying, who risks her life as she hides the injured man in her home. Despite not being able to communicate verbally, they start to fall for each other and a heart-wrenching love story ensues.

Genre: History, Romance, War
Country: China
Year: 2017
Duration: 97 minutes
Director: Bille August
Language(s): Chinese, English
Subtitles: English
Screenplay: Greg Latter
Cinematographer: Filip Zumbrunn
Editor: Gerd Tjur
Music: Annette Focks
Principal Cast: Emile Hirsch, Yifei Liu, Fangcong Li

To those who Believe
To those who have Passion
To those who have Faith
in AWFF

We celebrate Life through Asian & Asian American Cinema
We are eternally grateful!

Asel, Georges, Sadyk, Brett
Aitysh Film Team, Kyrgyzstan
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WE THE PEOPLE

An inclusion summit committed to advancing inclusion within the entertainment industry by serving as a solution-oriented call to action.
BUFFALO BOYS
COMPETITION

SYNOPSIS:
In 19th Century Java, a brutal massacre and the murder of Sultan Hamza by Captain Van Trach and his Dutch soldiers force Arana, Jamar and Suwo - the sultan's brother and infant sons - to flee the country, bringing them halfway around the world to the American Wild West. After working the railroads and learning the cowboy way of life, Arana tells the boys it's time to return to their homeland and avenge their father's death.

Back on Indonesian soil, the hunt for their father's killer begins. Along the way, they meet some villagers including Kiona, the rebellious and beautiful headman's daughter who Suwo falls for, and soon find out that the treacherous Van Trach still rules the area. Their presence puts the village in danger, quickly turning their quest for revenge into a fight for freedom.

Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Singapore

Genre: Action; Country: Indonesia, Singapore; Year: 2018; Duration: 102 minutes; Director: Mike Wiluan; Language(s): Indonesian, English; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Raymond Lee, Mike Wiluan; Cinematographer: John Radel; Editor: Sean Albertson; Principal Cast: Conan Stevens, Yoshi Sudarso, Sunny Pang, Mike Wiluan, Zack Lee, Ario Bayu, Pevita Pearce

SYNOPSIS:
Close-up of an astronaut's face. The astronaut is Cemal. Kenan dubs home videos for a living. In a classroom, kindergarten teacher Suzan weeps frantically. They are the sons and daughter of Mazhar. Now, after being 30 years apart, their father calls them back home to their village of Hasanlar. They don't know why. When they arrive to Hasanlar, they realize that their father is dead and in his will he asks to be buried when the butterflies come to the village to die; one of the many strangeness of this village. Three siblings who neither know each other nor anything about their father will have to kill time in this village while waiting for the time of the butterflies. As they start to find out more about their father and about each other, they also start to know more about themselves.

Official Golden Globes Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Turkey

Genre: Drama, Comedy; Country: Turkey; Year: 2017; Duration: 117 minutes; Director: Tolga Karaçelik; Language(s): Turkish; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Tolga Karaçelik; Cinematographer: Andaç Sahan; Music: Ahmet Kenan Bilgic; Editor: Evren Lus; Principal Cast: Tolga Tekin, Bartu Kızılcıtürk, Tugçe Altug
In present-day Karachi, the aging patriarch of the Jamali family is taken ill and his eldest daughter and sole carer, Zareen, is forced to reconnect with her sister, Zara, on her return from London. Burdened with guilt and resentments, the sisters must confront the wounds of their past and they begin to realize that sometimes the only way for a family to move on, is by finding a way back.

**Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Pakistan**

**Genre:** Drama, Mystery, Romance; **Country:** Pakistan, UK; **Year:** 2018; **Duration:** 125 minutes; **Director:** Asim Abbasi; **Language(s):** Urdu, Sindhi; **Subtitles:** English; **Screenplay:** Asim Abbasi; **Cinematographer:** Mo Azmi; **Editor:** Aarti Bajaj; **Music:** Saif Samejo; **Principal Cast:** Sanam Saeed, Aamina Sheikh, Adnan Malik, Mohammad Ahmad

**SYNOPSIS:**

Mustafa, a man in his mid-thirties, lives in a small two-room house in the poor, snowy village of Kars with his wife Suna and 8 year old disabled son Rıza. He works as a personal driver for a public institution and is having a difficult time with his strict, selfish boss who treats him badly. Road conditions are unfavorable and Mustapha rides to work on his horse, his only luxury. One day, following an accident, Mustapha and Suna receive bad news and their lives are turned upside down.

**Turkey Film Days**

**Genre:** Drama; **Country:** Turkey; **Year:** 2017; **Duration:** 99 minutes; **Director:** Mustafa Karadeniz; **Language(s):** Turkish; **Subtitles:** English; **Producer(s):** Mustafa Karadeniz; **Screenplay:** Mustafa Karadeniz; **Cinematographer:** Ölcay Öğuz; **Principal Cast:** Şilan Düzdaban, Sezgin Cengiz, Mert Aygun, Halil Demir;
**ELEVATOR**

The Elevator takes place in a lift, where two men are stuck together. Timur is a businessman who is convinced that any problem can be resolved with money whilst Askar Aga, a security guard in the building, lives by his heart, which has made his life unbearable. Confined in such a small space for 72 hours, the two men begin to find a common language...

**World Premiere**

Genre: Psychological Drama; Country: Kazakhstan; Year: 2018; Duration: 95 minutes; Director: Nurtas Adambay; Language(s): Kazakh, Russian; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Nurtas Adambay; Screenplay: Nurtas Adambay; Cinematographer: Azamat Dulatov; Principal Cast: Ysbek Abilmazhinov, Zhandos Albaszov

**SYNOPSIS:**

Sobibor is a story of the rebellion of the human spirit against the mindless exterminating machine. In October 1943 the prisoners of the Nazi camp Sobibor, led by Soviet officer Alexander Pechersky, organized a revolt and mass escape – the only successful rebellion in death camps history.

**Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Russia**

Genre: Drama, History, War; Country: Russia, Germany, Lithuania, Poland; Year: 2018; Duration: 117 minutes; Director: Konstantin Khabenskiy; Language(s): Russian German, Polish, Yiddish; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Antonin Dedet; Screenplay: Konstantin Khabenskiy, Ilya Vasiliev; Cinematographer: Ramunas Greicius; Editor: Yuriy Troyankin; Music: Kuzma Bodrov; Principal Cast: Konstantin Khabenskiy, Christopher Lambert, Michalina Olszanska, Philippe Reinhardt;
In order to confront the ghosts that haunt him, Palestinian director Raed Andoni assembles an eclectic group of ex-prisoners to build a replicate of Al-Moskobiya, Israel’s main interrogation centre, where he himself was jailed at the age of 18. As the building starts to take shape, the Palestinian ex-prisoners begin to relive and re-enact their nightmarish interrogations and experiences.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Underlining the gap between have-nots’ lives and the elites’ world by switching between black and white and glamorous colors, a corrupted village in rural southern Taiwan is illustrated with memorable style, heartfelt empathy, and whimsical humor. Security guard Pickle and his trash collector friend Belly Button kill time together during night shifts watching the American-educated boss, Kevin’s, dash-cam recordings of his various sexual encounters with women. Against the buddies’ will, something horrifying rather than erotic reveals.

**Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Palestine**

**Genre:** Documentary;  **Country:** Palestine;  **Year:** 2017;  **Duration:** 94 minutes;  **Director:** Raed Andoni;  **Language(s):** Arabic, English;  **Subtitles:** English;  **Screenplay:** Raed Andoni;  **Cinematographer:** Camille Cottagnoud;  **Editor:** Gladys Joujou;  **Sound:** Nicolas Becker, Olivier Claude;  **Principal Cast:** Ramzi Maqdisi, Mohammed Khattab, Raed Andoni

**Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Taiwan**

**Genre:** Drama;  **Country:** Taiwan;  **Year:** 2018;  **Duration:** 104 minutes;  **Director:** Hsin-yao Huang;  **Language(s):** Taiwanese, Mandarin, English;  **Subtitles:** English;  **Producer(s):** Mong-Hong Chung, Ju Feng Yeh;  **Screenplay:** Hsin-yao Huang;  **Cinematographer:** Nagao Nakashima;  **Music:** Sheng-Xiang Lin;  **Principal Cast:** Cres Chuang, Bamboo Chu-Sheng Chen, Leon Dai;
HEAVEN WITHOUT PEOPLE

SYNOPSIS:
When a large family comes together for the first time in two years over Easter lunch, tensions bubble to the surface in surprising ways as they navigate an unforeseen conflict that threatens to derail their reunion. Older and younger generations clash as each of the family members confront their own political and moral hypocrisies and slowly unravel the ties that bind.

Official Golden Globe in the Foreign Language Category - Lebanon

Genre: Drama; Country: Lebanon; Year: 2017; Duration: 91 minutes; Director: Lucien Bourjeily; Language(s): Arabic; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Lucien Bourjeily, Farah Shaer; Screenplay: Lucien Bourjeily; Cinematographer: Ahmad Al Trabolsi; Editor: Lucien Bourjeily; Sound: Haitham Atme; Principal Cast: Farah Shaer, Jean Paul Hage, Jenny Gebara;

SYNOPSIS:
Sara enters Baghdad station for its reopening ceremony with sinister intentions. As she braces to commit an unthinkable act, her plans are drastically altered by an unwanted and awkward encounter with Salam, a self-assured and flirtatious salesman. With Salam now hostage to Sara's confused and deluded plan, he battles desperately to appeal to her humanity and sway her decision. In a moment of consideration and with her convictions crumbling before her, Sara is given the opportunity to witness the life and innocence she was so willing to destroy. But is this a second chance or an admission of guilt?

Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Iraq

Genre: Drama, Thriller; Country: Iraq, Canada, UK, France, Qatar, Netherlands; Year: 2017; Duration: 82 minutes; Director: Mohamed Al-Daradji; Language(s): Arabic, English; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Mohamed Al-Daradji, Isabelle Stead; Cinematographer: Saeid Alden, Duraid Munajim; Editor: Mohamed Al-Daradji, Herve De Luze; Music: Fabien Kourtzer, Mike Kourtzer; Principal Cast: Zahraa Ghandour, Amir Ali Jabarah;
THE LORD EAGLE

SYNOPSIS:
In Yakutia, during the 1930s, elderly Mikipper and his wife Opouos live out their days in the thick taiga. Cows, hunting, and fishing make up their simple everyday life. One day, early in the winter, an eagle flies into their garden. They dare not drive it away due to eagles being considered sacred. Throughout the winter, the elderly couple feed the bird so that it does not attack their cattle and gradually they grow accustomed to one another. On a cold Christmas Day, the eagle makes its way into the house and occupies the honorary place in the corner on the shelf next to a set of icons. From this moment on the couple and the eagle start to live their lives together in one house...

Official Golden Globe Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Russia

Marlina lives quietly in Sumba until one day a man named Markus and his gang try to rob her house and she kills him. Eventually, she is haunted by Markus, and her life turns in 180 degrees.

SYNOPSIS:
Marlina lives quietly in Sumba until one day a man named Markus and his gang try to rob her house and she kills him. Eventually, she is haunted by Markus, and her life turns in 180 degrees.

Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Indonesia

Genre: Drama, Thriller; Country: Indonesia, France, Malaysia, Thailand; Year: 2017; Duration: 93 minutes; Director: Mouly Surya; Language(s): Indonesian; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Rama Adi, Mouly Surya, Garin Nugroho; Cinematographer: Yunus Pasolang; Editor: Kelvin Nugroho; Music: Yudhi Arfani, Zeke Khaseli; Principal Cast: Egy Fedly, Dea Panendra, Yoga Pratama
Inspired by a true story and a headline case in Hong Kong, *Million Loves in Me* begins when Katy, a 45-year-old woman, is charged with animal cruelty after the police discover more than a hundred dogs and cats living in her apartment. Following her trial at court, the abnormal lives of Katy and her mother arouse the attention of a neighborhood reporter who starts to investigate their lives. When he discovers all the animals at their apartment, he discloses the matter to the public for the sake of justice. However, after seeing Katy being arrested by the police and devastated by the intense public criticism, he begins to doubt the morality of his own actions......

**Official Golden Globe Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Hong Kong**

**Genre:** Drama, Comedy; **Country:** Hong Kong, Malaysia, China; **Year:** 2018; **Duration:** 82 minutes; **Director:** Sampson Yuen Yun Hong; **Language(s):** Cantonese, Mandarin; **Subtitles:** English; **Producers:** John Y, Kenny Chan, Monique R. White, Frank Mayor; **Screenplay:** John Y, Lim Tiong Wooi, Jeremy Tan; **Cinematographer:** Tak Fung Wong; **Editor:** JT Billings, Chean Hoong Loo; **Music:** David Koon, Diana Ringo; **Principal Cast:** John Y, Lo Koon Lan, Hiro Hayama, Wilson Lee, Ruby Yap, Joa James, Yunn Ru

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Ali's family has inherited a mission – taking care of the local healing spring water with which they must treat sick fellow villagers. His three sons are skeptical about the water - only Ali's young daughter, Namme, remains a guardian of family traditions. The village has a mixed Muslim and Christian heritage and Namme becomes friendly with Merab, a closeness and sympathetic nature developing between the two of them. A hydropower station is being constructed locally, which is thought to be a reason for environmental changes, and one day the spring water starts to disappear. Ali remembers an old tradition, according to which the water will not return unless a sacrifice is made...

**Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Georgia**

**Genre:** Drama, Fantasy; **Country:** Georgia; **Year:** 2017; **Duration:** 91 minutes; **Director:** Zaza Khalvashi; **Language(s):** Georgian; **Subtitles:** English; **Producers:** Ieva Norviliene, Sulkhan Turmanidze; **Screenplay:** Zaza Khalvashi; **Cinematographer:** Giorgi Shvelidze; **Editor:** Levan Kukhashvili; **Principal Cast:** Aleko Abashidze, Ednar Bolkvadze, Ramaz Bolkvadze
SYNOPSIS:
An old man living on the shores of a remote lake in Kyrgyzstan makes a living by digging graves and toilets for a wealthy businessman who seemingly had stolen his wife and sons many years earlier. One night the old man decides to take revenge and sets off on his battered motorcycle with a shotgun to kill his boss. However, his plans are thwarted when he accidently knocks down a mysterious young woman wandering about the scrubland. He takes her back to his small rundown house and tends to her wounds. An unlikely relationship begins between the two and the lonely old man begins to fall in love with his strange and silent patient...

Official Golden Globe Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Kyrgyzstan

Genre: Drama; Country: Kyrgyzstan; Year: 2017; Duration: 90 minutes; Director: Temirbek Birnazarov; Language(s): Kyrgyz; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Gulmira Kerimova; Screenplay: Temirbek Birnazarov, Nurifa Umuralieva; Cinematographer: Kabylyan Hamidov; Editor: Ziregul Kubandyk kyz, Kulchoro Sydykov; Principal Cast: Akylbek Abdykalykov, Dina Djakob

SYNOPSIS:
Successful movie director, Javed Hasan, finds himself in a midlife crisis, questioning whether marriage and career have demanded too much from him. A tryst with Nitu, his daughter’s childhood friend, turns into a national scandal and Javed’s loving family is torn apart. He eventually divorces wife Maya and becomes estranged from daughter Saberi and son Ahir. Javed and Nitu marry, but it’s no bed of roses for the couple as they receive the wrath of judgmental Bangladeshi society. Once close friends, Saberi and Nitu become vulnerable to public shame and Saberi realizes that Nitu has competed against her since childhood. Saberi must now reassess her life and encourage her mother to become more independent. In desperation, they seek strength together.

Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Bangladesh

Genre: Drama; Country: Bangladesh; Year: 2017; Duration: 85 minutes; Director: Mostofa Sarwar Farooki; Language(s): Bengali; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Mostofa Sarwar Farooki; Cinematographer: Sheikh Rajibul Islam; Editor: Momin Biswas; Music: Pavel Arin; Principal Cast: Irrfan Khan, Nusrat Imrose Tisha, Parno Mittra
Forensic pathologist Dr. Nariman has a car accident with a motorcyclist and injures his 8-year-old son. He offers to take the child to a clinic nearby, but the father refuses his help and money. A few days later, in the hospital where he works, Dr. Nariman finds out that the young boy has been brought for an autopsy after a suspicious death. Dr. Nariman faces a dilemma: is he responsible for the child's death due to the car accident or did the child die of food poisoning according to another doctor's diagnosis?

SYNOPSIS:

The Chinese Navy’s Jiaolong (“Sea Dragon”) Assault Team is famed for its skill in getting the job done. After its success in rescuing a cargo ship hijacked by pirates off the Somalia coast, the team is assigned an even more perilous mission. A coup in a North African republic has left local Chinese residents in danger, circumstances further complicated by a terrorist plot to obtain nuclear materials. The situation could prove fatal to the hostages and disastrous to the entire region, and presents Jiaolong with a challenge that threatens the very existence of the team and its members.

SYNOPSIS:

Forensic pathologist Dr. Nariman has a car accident with a motorcyclist and injures his 8-year-old son. He offers to take the child to a clinic nearby, but the father refuses his help and money. A few days later, in the hospital where he works, Dr. Nariman finds out that the young boy has been brought for an autopsy after a suspicious death. Dr. Nariman faces a dilemma: is he responsible for the child's death due to the car accident or did the child die of food poisoning according to another doctor's diagnosis?

Operational Red Sea

Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Iran

Genre: Drama, Mystery, Thriller;
Country: Iran;
Year: 2017;
Duration: 104 minutes;
Director: Vahid Jalilvand;
Language(s): Persian;
Subtitle(s): English;
Producer(s): Ali Jalilvand, Ehsan Alikhani;
Screenplay: Ali Zarnegar, Vahid Jalilvand;
Cinematographer: Peyman Shadmanfar;
Editor: Vahid Jalilvand, Sepehr Vakili;
Music: Peyman Yazdanian;
Principal Cast: Navid Mohammadzadeh, Amir Agha’ee, Heidiyeh Tehrani, Zakiyeh Behbahani, Sa’eed Dakh, Alireza Ostadi

Operation Red Sea

Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Hong Kong

Genre: Drama, Action, Thriller;
Country: China, Morocco, Hong Kong;
Year: 2018;
Duration: 142 minutes;
Director: Dante Lam;
Language(s): Mandarin, Arabic, English;
Subtitle(s): English;
Screenplay: Ji Feng;
Cinematographer: Yuen Man Fung, Wing-Hang Wong;
Music: Elliot Leung;
Principal Cast: Yi Zhang, Johnny Huang, Hai-Qing
THE RIVER

SYNOPSIS:
A family with five sons live on a farm in a remote, rural Kazakh village. In accordance with Eastern traditions, the eldest son Aslan (13) becomes his father's deputy, taking charge of delegating all work tasks. One day Aslan takes his brothers to the local river for a swim – a moment of deep happiness. However, from then on, their lives start to change. And when Kanat, an unknown cousin, unexpectedly arrives at the village, the structured life of the family begins to fall apart for good.

Official Golden Globe Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Kazakhstan

Genre: Drama; Country: Kazakhstan, Poland, Norway; Year: 2018; Duration: 108 minutes; Director: Emir Baigazin; Language(s): Kazakh; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Emir Baigazin; Cinematographer: Emir Baigazin; Editor: Emir Baigazin; Music: Justyna Banaszczyk; Principal Cast: Zhalgas Klanov, Zhasulan Userbayev, Ruslan Userbayev, Bagdaulet Sagindikov, Sultanali Zhakseybek, Kuandyk Kyzybayev, Aida Illyaskyzy, Eric Tazabekov

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

SYNOPSIS:
Deep into the Gobi Desert in western China, Eryong (starring Wang Xuebing) is managing his own Ostrich farm - this is his last try to get his ex-wife back and put his life back on the track. One day, his creditor Brother Wu leaves a quiet boy Lele with Eryong when he fails again to receive money from Eryong. Suspecting that his ex-wife has fall in love with someone else, Eryong decided to find her, and he has no choice but to take Lele together with him. During their three-day-two-night journey traveling across the desert, they meet Xiao Mei, a bad-tempered truck driver girl (Ma Yili), with whom Eryong and Lele have a good time. Keep going, they encounter with more and more passengers, who have changed the relationship between Eryong and Lele. At the same time, the lives of the passengers have also been effected by Eryong and Lele too.

Official Golden Globe Submission in the Foreign Language Category - China

Genre: Drama, Comedy, Crime; Country: China; Year: 2018; Duration: 113 minutes; Director: Gaopeng Tang; Language(s): Mandarin; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Zheqing Duan, Gaopeng Tang, Xiaojun Yue; Cinematographer: Daming Guo; Editor: Tsuyoshi Imai; Sound: Chen Hongli; Principal Cast: Yili Ma, Xuebing Wang, Guangyou Zhu
SYNOPSIS:

Intoy, a carefree no-hoper, living in a small town in the Philippines, decides to help his sister who lives in Finland win a child custody battle. He begins to involve the townspeople, faking legal documents and setting up false endorsements to prove his sister’s financial stability. In the process he discovers deeper insights about the town which continues to lose more of its young women who are leaving the country to seek greener pastures.

Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Philippines

Genre: Drama; Country: Philippines; Year: 2018; Duration: 130 minutes; Director: Chito S. Roño; Language(s): Tagalog; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Rody Vera; Cinematographer: Neil Daza; Editor: Carlo Francisco Manatad; Sound: Mike Idioma, Alex Tomboc; Music: Erwin Fajardo; Principal Cast: Christian Balbes, Daria Ramirez, Nanding Josef, Mon Confiado, Elora España, Sue Prado, Keanna Reeves, Arnold Reyes, Judy Anne Santos

SYNOPSIS:

In 1993, former military officer Park Suk-young is recruited as a spy by South Korea’s National Intelligence Service (NIS), and given the codename “Black Venus”. He is then sent to infiltrate a group of high-ranking North Korean officials based in Beijing, with the ultimate goal of acquiring information on the North’s nuclear program. After becoming close to Ri Myong-un, a key power broker, Black Venus succeeds beyond his wildest dreams of gaining the trust of North Korea’s leadership. But political machinations on both sides of the border threaten to derail his accomplishments.

Korea Film Days

Genre: Drama; Country: South Korea; Year: 2018; Duration: 137 minutes; Director: Jong-bin Yoon; Language(s): Korean; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Sung-hui Kwon, Jong-bin Yoon; Cinematographer: Chan-min Choi; Editor: Jae-beom Kim, Sang-beom Kim; Principal Cast: Jung-min Hwang, Sung-min Lee, Jim-Woong Cho, Ji-Hoon Ju
**THE TAILOR**

**SYNOPSIS:**
The Tailor is a mysterious and fascinating journey of a young woman determined to preserve and adapt her family's traditional Ao dai creations (traditional Vietnamese garments), for the 21st century. A freak accident transports Nhu Y, the second eldest daughter of the Thanh Nu tailor shop family, 50 years into the future. She is amazed by both the development of the garments and the society of the future. She also meets the future version of herself, whose maturity is in stark contrast with her own impulsiveness and inexperience. Discovering that the only way to return to the past is to seize the old Ao dai from the Nhu Y of the future, she succeeds in the endeavor and returns home. However, she miscalculates by 3 years and finds her family business in bankruptcy. Nhu Y therefore decides to go back to the future to learn and train as a tailor in order to save her family.

**Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - Vietnam**

**SYNOPSIS:**
Mrs. Wong knows that her driving instructor husband is carrying on an extramarital affair, but for the sake of their marriage and autistic son, she chooses to silently endure. However, one day the mistress comes to the house and disturbs them, and after a big fight, Mr. Wong leaves home. Feeling at a loss and struggling to care for her son on her own, Mrs. Wong begins to plot ways to take revenge against the mistress...

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**Genre:** Drama; **Country:** Hong Kong; **Year:** 2017; **Duration:** 91 minutes; **Director:** Chan Tai Lee; **Language(s):** Cantonese; **Subtitles:** English; **Screenplay:** Tai-lee Chan, Nicholl Tang; **Producer:** Ng Kin Hung; **Cinematographer:** Radium Cheung; **Editor:** Nose Chui Hing Chan; **Principal Cast:** Teresa Mo, Ray Lui, Man-Lung Ling, Bonnie Xian

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**TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY**

**SYNOPSIS:**
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**Genre:** Drama; **Country:** Hong Kong; **Year:** 2017; **Duration:** 91 minutes; **Director:** Chan Tai Lee; **Language(s):** Cantonese; **Subtitles:** English; **Screenplay:** Tai-lee Chan, Nicholl Tang; **Producer:** Ng Kin Hung; **Cinematographer:** Radium Cheung; **Editor:** Nose Chui Hing Chan; **Principal Cast:** Teresa Mo, Ray Lui, Man-Lung Ling, Bonnie Xian
In a small village in northeast India, 10-year-old Dhunu dreams of having her own rock band. Her vibrant spirit, imagination and self-assurance stand out in a world where girls are expected to be timid and submissive. With her gang of boys and the support of her widowed mother, Dhunu faces the struggles of her daily life and hopes for the day she can finally play on a real guitar.

Official Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Category - India

SYNOPSIS:
In a small village in northeast India, 10-year-old Dhunu dreams of having her own rock band. Her vibrant spirit, imagination and self-assurance stand out in a world where girls are expected to be timid and submissive. With her gang of boys and the support of her widowed mother, Dhunu faces the challenges of her daily life and hopes for the day she can finally play on a real guitar.

Genre: Drama; Country: India; Year: 2017; Duration: 87 minutes; Director: Rima Das; Language(s): Assamese; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Rima Das, Jaya Das; Screenplay: Rima Das; Cinematographer: Rima Das; Editor: Rima Das; Sound: Amrit Pritam; Music: Nilotpal Borah; Principal Cast: Bhanita Das, Basanti Das, Boloram Das, Rinku Das, Bishnu Kalita, Manabendra Das, Bhaskar Das

1987 WHEN THE DAY COMES

SYNOPSIS:
In 1987 Korea, under an oppressive military regime, a college student gets killed during a police interrogation involving torture. Government officials are quick to cover up the death and order the body to be cremated. A prosecutor, who is supposed to sign the cremation release, raises questions about a 21-year-old kid dying of a heart attack, and he begins looking into the case for truth. Despite a systematic attempt to silence everyone involved in the case, the truth gets out, causing an eruption of public outrage.

Korea Film Days

Genre: Drama; Country: South Korea; Year: 2017; Duration: 129 minutes; Director: Joon-Hwan Jang; Language(s): Korean; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Young-Hwan Jang, Won-Chan Jung, Woo-Jeong Lee; Screenplay: Kyung-chan Kim; Cinematographer: Woo-hyung Kim; Editor: Jin-mo Yang; Principal Cast: Yoon-Seok Kim, Jung-woo Ha, Hae-jin Yoo, Tae-ri Kim
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DYING TO SERVIVE

SYNOPSIS:
Dying to Survive is based on the true story of a Chinese leukemia patient Lu Yong who was arrested in 2013 for dispensing counterfeit drugs. Chinese comedic star Xu Zheng plays the fictionalized Lu, a storekeeper hawking Indian "health aids" who is lured by the promise of financial reward to smuggle low-cost Indian generic drugs into China. An unlikely brain trust of leukemia patients and their loved ones gathers around Xu's storekeeper. The band of everyday heroes must eventually pit their wiles and moxie against a regulatory order intent on enforcing Swiss pharmaceutical interests.

North American Premiere

Presented by: The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences as part of the 2018 China Onscreen Biennial
In partnership with: Asia Society Southern California, Asian World Film Festival, Los Angeles Chinese Film Festival
Followed by Q&A with Xu Zheng, moderated by Janet Yang

Genre: Drama; Country: China; Year: 2018; Duration: 115 minutes; Director: Wen Muye; Language(s): Mandarin; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Ning Hao, Xu Zheng; Screenplay: Han Jianu, Zhong Wei, Wen Muye; Cinematographer: Wang Boxue; Editor: Zhu Lin; Music: Huang Chao; Principal Cast: Xu Zheng, Wang Chuanjun, Yang Xinming, Zhang Yu, Tan Zhuo

THE GIRL WITH THE RED SCARF

SYNOPSIS:
Story of a dilemma between a woman's love and her logic. Asya, a young girl with a strict mother, meets Ilyas who is a womanizer city man, and they quickly fall in love. They get over the hardships and have a quick happy marriage. However, after he helps a man one night, Ilyas' life changes forever and he leaves Asya and Samet, their son and doesn't come back. After that, Asya takes their son and go away without knowing where she is heading, until a familiar hand reaches her to help selflessly.

90th Anniversary Tribute to Chingiz Aitmatov

Genre: Drama; Country: Turkey; Year: 1977; Duration: 92 minutes; Director: Atif Yilmaz; Language(s): Turkish; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Arif Keskiner; Screenplay: Chingiz Aitmatov, Ali Oezgenturk; Cinematographer: Cetin Tunca; Music: Cahi Berkay; Principal Cast: Turkan Soray, Kadir Inanir, Ahmet Mekin
IN THE LIFE OF MUSIC

SYNOPSIS:
In the Life of Music tells the story of how one song “Champa Battambang,” a song made famous by Sinn Sisamouth (the King of Khmer Music), plays a role in the lives of three different generations. It is a feature narrative told in 3 chapters during 3 different decades, depicting the lives of people whose world is inevitably transformed by the emergence of the Khmer Rouge Regime. It is a powerful intergenerational tale that weaves through 37 years of Cambodia’s ever-changing landscape.

Genre: Drama; Country: USA, Cambodia; Year: 2017; Duration: 92 minutes; Director(s): Caylee So, Sok Visal; Language(s): Assamese; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Caylee So, Dane Styler; Cinematographer: David D. Rivera Rojas; Editor: Frank Martinez; Music: Gavin Keese; Principal Cast: Ellen Wong, Sareth Has, Raingsey Phal

REAL CUBA

SYNOPSIS:
The Real Cuba is a documentary by Stas Namin, a Russian director, produced in collaboration with Jim Brown, an American documentary director and winner of four Emmys. The film reveals the unique spirit of freedom that permeates Cuba and Cubans of every social standing, age and economic circumstances. Everyone who visits the island even briefly can feel it. The spirit is reflected in their eyes and on their faces. It seems to fill the Cuban air. The old Havana teems with wonderful street musicians, trendy cafes, restaurants, boutique hotels and shops. New buildings are put up, and the one-of-a-kind architecture of the past is renovated.

Genre: Documentary; Country: Russia, USA; Year: 2017; Duration: 63 minutes; Director: Stas Namin, James Brown; Language(s): English; Subtitles: English; Producer(s): Stas Namin, James Brown, Olga Savchenko, Artem Mikoyan; Cinematographer: Artem Mikoyan; Editor: Artem Mikoyan, Maxim Ryazantsev, Andrey Ponkratov; Sound: Alexey Panin; Music: Miozotis Fabelo Pinares, Cabalgando con Fidel Celia Cruz & La Sonora Matancera- Guantanamera Papai Oviedo y Su Soneros- Chan Chan Mayco D’alma- Boca Boca
WHEN ANGELS SLEEP

SYNOPSIS:
While excitedly preparing for her wedding, Arman and her fiancé’s life turns upside-down. Arman gets abducted while her fiancé, Qurman, faces serious trouble with law enforcement. After her recovery, she begins her quest for justice.

Genre: Drama; Country: Kazakhstan; Year: 2017; Duration: 81 minutes; Director(s): Rashid Suleymenov; Language(s): Kazakh; Subtitles: English; Screenplay: Gulzira Aidarbekova; Cinematographer: Matvej Shestakov; Music: Renat Aubakirov; Principal Cast: Zhuldyz Abdukarimova, Kairat Nurtas
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