SOPHIA'S CHOICE

proudly presents

ASIAN
POP-UP CINEMA

2020
SEASON 11
Sept 10–Oct 10

+ HALLOWEEN TREAT
Oct 30–31

www.asianpopupcinema.org

YOUR PASSPORT TO ASIAN CINEMA
Welcome to Asian Pop-Up Cinema (APUC)'s bi-annual film festival Season ELEVEN (11). We hope that you and your family are safe and healthy amidst this global pandemic. Now, more than ever, we are fully charged with the goal to be Your Passport to Asian Cinema.

Season 11, running between September 10 and October 10, 2020, will be a "combo" festival with films presented online as well as physically at a drive-in theater. Our 15-film virtual program will be hosted by Festival Scope (festivalscope.com/page/apuc) that is in full compliance with MPA approved DRM security. The physical program will showcase 7 films at Davis Drive-in at Lincoln Yards including a 'bonus' Korean horror double feature directed by internationally known Yeon Sang-ho over the Halloween weekend. (asianpopupcinema.org/season-11-overview)

The diverse genres/content selected are films made by filmmakers from Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, the Philippines, South Korea and Taiwan. Out of the 22 films, we are proud to present 1 World Premiere, 1 International Premiere, 2 North American Premieres, 9 U.S. Premieres, 5 Chicago Premieres, and a few special encores.

Additionally, pre-recorded Filmmakers’ Talks videos, responding to a questionnaire prepared by our virtual moderators, are included at the end of most features to enhance your understanding of the cultural and artistic aspects of the films.

With great pleasure, here are our virtual moderators:

- Mark Schilling (Japan), an American film critic, journalist, translator, and author based in Tokyo, Japan. He has written for The Japan Times, Variety, and Screen International.
- Ron Falzone (Chicago), an award-winning producer/screenwriter, associate professor of Cinema and Television Arts at Columbia College Chicago, an adjunct instructor at the Harold Ramis Film School at the Second City, and APUC’s in-house lecturer/moderator since our inaugural season.
- Kevin Ma (Hong Kong), formerly the Entertainment Editor of Cathay Pacific’s Discovery magazine, now a free-lance writer contributing articles for South Korea’s Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival, Italy’s Udine Far East Film Festival, Hong Kong International Film Festival, and the Hong Kong Film Archive.

Last but not the least, our popular Movie with Mooncakes free screening event sponsored by the Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China, will allow you to appreciate the full moon while enjoying the movie @ Davis Drive-in. Make your reservations early!

Buy your tickets online at the websites hosting our films. Please remember to subscribe (asianpopupcinema.org/subscribe) to the weekly e-newsletters for updates and receipt of discounts and promo codes.

Enjoy!

Sophia Wong Boccio
Founder & Executive Director of SOPHIA’S CHOICE
Presenter of Asian Pop-Up Cinema
Happy 5th Anniversary
Asian Pop-Up Cinema
and
Many More to Come!

7-films screenings @ Davis Drive-in at Lincoln Yards (1684 N. Throop Street).
Door opens at 7:30pm with exact showtimes based on sunset.
More info: asianpopupcinema.org/season-11-overview

September 10, *Paper Flower* (Opening Night) – South Korea ........p 5
October 1, *The Climbers* – Hong Kong/China .....................p 6
October 3, *Edward* – the Philippines ..............................p 7
October 9, *My Prince Edward* – Hong Kong ......................p 8
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We wish continued success to Asian Pop-Up Cinema in its efforts to foster understanding and familiarity of diverse Asian cultures

masudafunai www.masudafunai.com
Tribute To

Ahn Sung-Ki
Recipient of
CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Ahn Sung-ki is one of Korea’s leading actors and serves as the co-president of the Busan International Film Festival. He was the on-screen persona for politically conscientious directors in the 1980s and filled his resume with socially conscious works through to the early 1990s. Ahn gradually developed an intellectual image and is known as a talented actor in socially realist films. He has built the most consistent acting career in Korea and is known as “the National Actor.” He is also active in various cultural events as a senior film professional, such as being the festival director of the Asiana International Short Film Festival, and head of the committee for the Shin Young Kyun Arts & Culture Foundation. He also starred in the US-Korea co-production The Last Knights alongside Clive Owen and Morgan Freeman. His recent work includes Sangyang (2016), and Paper Flower (2019).

Due to the pandemic, Mr. Ahn is unable to receive APUC’s Career Achieve Award in person. Instead Mr. Ahn has sent us his virtual acceptance speech to be projected at the Opening Night feature presentation.

OPENING NIGHT

PAPER FLOWER
CHICAGO PREMIERE

Thursday, September 10, 7:30pm - 10:30pm @ Drive-in
South Korea | 2019 | Drama | 103 Minutes | In Korean with English subtitles

Director: Koh Hoon
Film Source: Blue Fox Entertainment

Sung-gil, an old, poor funeral director, lives with his sick son and struggles to take care of him. A new neighbor who’s a single mom with a bubbly personality shows up and becomes the caretaker for Sung-gil’s son. Meanwhile, a local noodle shop owner, who has been feeding free noodles to the homeless passes away.

The homeless want a public funeral in the town square but the city is against it. At the end, Sung-gil takes the benefactor’s portrait, and drives his van covered in paper flowers to the square.

Ahn Sung-ki is one of Korea’s leading actors and serves as the co-president of the Busan International Film Festival. His heartfelt performance in Paper Flower earned him the Platinum Remi Award and Best Actor Award at the 53rd WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival and was the first Korean actor to receive an award. “Ahn was able to provide a very nuanced yet profound portrayal of his character’s deepest feelings with great clarity, empathy and dignity,” said the judges at WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival.

Please join us watching Mr. Ahn Sung-ki’s specially recorded award acceptance video before the movie!

asianpopupcinema.org/paperflower4220
THE CLIMBERS
SPECIAL ENCORE CELEBRATING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL
A FREE SCREENING EVENT SPONSORED BY THE CONSULATE
GENERAL OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
Thursday, October 1, 7:30pm - 10:30pm @ Drive-in
Hong Kong/China | 2019 | Drama/Action Adventure | 125 minutes | In Mandarin with English subtitles
Director: Daniel Lee
Producer: Tsui Hark
Starring: Wu Jing, Zhang Ziyi, Zhang Yi, Jing Boran
Film Source: Well Go USA

Based on a true story from award-winning director Daniel Lee (Three Kingdoms, 14 Blades), featuring China’s biggest stars Wu Jing (Wandering Earth, Wolf Warrior 2) and Zhang Ziyi (Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, Memoirs of a Geisha, The Grandmaster), and with a special guest appearance from superstar Jackie Chan. The Climbers is a cinematic retelling of the first Chinese climbers to summit Mount Everest - the first ever to do so from the North Ridge. Well-known as the most challenging side of the mountain, the perilous journey takes its toll on the mountaineers, physically and mentally, forcing them to make life or death decisions at every turn.

asianpopupcinema.org/climbers100120

EDWARD
U.S. PREMIERE
Saturday, October 3, 7:30pm – 10:30pm @ Drive-in
Philippines | 2019 | Drama | 83 minutes | In Tagalog/English with English subtitles
Director: Thop Nazareno
Starring: Louise Abuel, Manuel Chua, Dido de la Paz, Elijah Canlas, Ella Cruz
Film Source: Awkward Penguin Films

A public hospital serves as the backdrop for a young boy’s rite of passage when he is stuck to take care of his ailing father. Caught in a place where life itself is in limbo, the boy treats the hospital grounds as his playground, not knowing that it will be his source of liberation in the end.

The Edward screening is presented as a fundraiser with net proceeds benefiting the Filipino Young Leaders Program (FYLPRO), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of high-performing, next-generation leaders that have a passion for advancing the Philippines and the Filipino people. They invite you to treat Frontliners to a Movie!

asianpopupcinema.org/edward100320
CLOSING NIGHT
BEYOND THE DREAM
U.S. PREMIERE
Saturday, October 10, 7:30pm - 10:30pm @ Drive-in
Hong Kong | 2019 | Romantic Psychodrama | 120 minutes |
In Cantonese with Chinese/English subtitles
Director: Kiwi Chow
Starring: Terrance Lau, Cecilia Choi, Nina Paw, Poon Chan Leung
Film Source: Golden Scene Co. Ltd.
Terrance Lau stars as Lok in his feature film debut that earned him critical acclaim and various accolades. He plays a recovering schizophrenic and yearns for love. One day, he encounters a young and beautiful Yan (Cecilia Choi - recently seen in the Taiwanese hit Detention), and quickly falls in love with her. Just when he struggles whether to tell her about his illness, he has a relapse and becomes delusional. Little does he know that she is a psychological counselor who has a hidden agenda. The pair develops a relationship that is beyond their wildest dreams.
Winner of five awards (and nominated for six) at the 39th Hong Kong Film Awards in 2019.

asianpopupcinema.org/beyond101020

MY PRINCE EDWARD
CHICAGO PREMIERE
Friday, October 9, 7:30pm - 10:30pm @ Drive-in
Hong Kong | 2019 | Drama | 88 minutes |
In Cantonese with Chinese/English subtitles
Director & Writer: Norris Wong
Starring: Stephey Tang, Chu Pak-hong, Nina Paw, Jin Kaijie
Film Source: Cheng Cheng Films

Serving countless newlyweds in Hong Kong’s go-to one-stop-shop of cheap wedding supplies doesn’t exempt Fong from social pressure to marry. Since nodding to Edward’s proposal, she has been pushed beyond her limits by unaffordable housing, archaic customs, and intrusive in-laws. What befuddles her further is the reappearance of Shuwei. He is a mainlander she’s supposed to be divorced from out of a sham marriage that solved her coming-of-age hardship.

Focused on the nuts and bolts of modern marriage, My Prince Edward pokes around levels of freedom with relationship status and geographic location. Like a breath of fresh air out of the breathless space it navigates, the delightful gem contributes a rare humane take on Hong Kong’s divisions with humor and wisdom.

asianpopupcinema.org/prince100920
SEASON 11+
SOUTH KOREAN DIRECTOR YEON SANG-HO
DOUBLE FEATURE

TRAIN TO BUSAN
Friday, October 30, 7:30pm - 10:30pm @ Drive-in
South Korea | 2016 | Action/Horror | 118 minutes | In Korean with English subtitles
Director: Yeon Sang-ho
Starring: Gong Yoo, Kim Su-an, Ma Dong-seok, Choi Woo-sik, An So-hee, Kim Eui-sung.
Film Source: Well Go USA

Train to Busan is a harrowing zombie horror-thriller that follows a group of terrified passengers fighting their way through a countrywide viral outbreak while trapped on a suspicion-filled, blood-drenched bullet train ride to Busan, a southern resort city that has managed to hold off the zombie hordes...or so everyone hopes.

The film premiered at the Midnight Screenings of the Cannes Film Festival on May 13, 2016. On August 7, the film set a record as the first Korean film to break the audience record of over 10 million theatergoers. The film serves as a reunion for Gong Yoo and Jung Yu-mi, who both starred in the 2011 film The Crucible. A sequel (yet completely independent story), Peninsula, was released in South Korea on July 15, 2020 and we are showing it Saturday, October 31, to celebrate Halloween!

Peninsula takes place four years after the zombie outbreak in Train to Busan. The Korean peninsula is devastated and Jung Seok, a former soldier who has managed to escape overseas, is given a mission to go back and unexpectedly meets survivors.

asianpopupcinema.org/peninsula103120

asianpopupcinema.org/train103020
Diaspora: Arirang Road

International Premiere
Streaming September 10 - 14
South Korea | 2019 | Documentary | 85 min |
In Korean with English subtitles
Director: Lee Kyu-chul
Starring: Yang Bang Ean (Japanese name: Kunihiko Ryo)
Film Source: M-Line Distribution

During the Japanese occupation period, suffering from famine and political chaos, Koreans were forced to deport or drafted to work in other countries. Now 150 years later, it appears around 7 million of those people and their families are spread across 170 countries, and so are their songs - ARIRANG.

The songs let them forget their painful memories and also remember their own country. A world-famous Korean-Japanese composer/pianist Yang Bang Ean follows the pathways of Korean diasporas as an inspiration, and performs his cross-over music concert called ARIRANG ROAD.

“One common point that director Lee Kyu-chul knows is that, while not all of the interviewees can fully remember the Arirang song, they all have memories that can be triggered. They all can recall some version of it. The immigrants all acknowledge collective singing as a means to get through hardship.” - HanCinema

asianpopupcinema.org/diaspora-arirang-road
HAPPY-GO-LUCKY DAYS
WORLD PREMIERE

Streaming September 15 - 19
Japan | 2020 | Animation/Drama/Romance | 60 minutes |
Japanese with English subtitles

Director: Takuya Sato
Featuring: Kana Hanazawa, Mikako Komatsu, Takahiro Sakurai, Kaori Ishihara
Film Source: Pony Canyon Films

Love is love. Someday, the pain of being in love will be an endearing memory. No matter who the feelings are towards, no matter what form it takes, all love and lifestyles have the same value. An omnibus anime tells the stories of "The wedding of an ex", "a student and a teacher at an all-boys' school" and "childhood friends whose bodies and hearts change with adolescence."

Takako Shimura (Wandering Son/ Sweet Blue Flowers) is an expert writer of ensemble cast novels with teenage characters. Her omnibus manga Happy-Go-Lucky-Days depicts a love story with a twist, in a light and delicate manner. Director Takuya Sato who is known for his poetic video and music production has animated this story. Japan's theatrical release of the film has been postponed because of COVID-19. U.S. viewers will appreciate being the first viewers in the world to see this anime virtually.

asianpopupcinema.org/happy-go-lucky-days

A DOBUGAWA DREAM
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Streaming September 15 - 19
Japan | 2018 | Drama | 82 minutes |
In Japanese with English subtitles

Director: Asato Watanabe
Starring: Yuwa Kitagaki, Takahiro Fujita, Tatsuo Kasano, Kinami Mizuki
Film Source: Third Window Films

After the suicide of his classmate, Tatsumi shuts himself off from his family and friends until one day he decides to break away and start running; and he wanders the streets without a job or a home. After a particularly absurd sequence of events, he meets the eccentric Tsuhiro, an older man with his own inner battles. The two strike up a bizarre friendship, and Tatsumi finds what could be described as a substitute family in this strange, surreal world of suburban Japan including Tsuhiro, a barmaid, a dancer, and a hapless police officer.

“Asato Watanabe directs this absurdist, low-budget film which approaches its subject from a completely different angle to most other films. Instead of using a calmly melancholic tone to match its sombre subject, Watanabe presents displays of realism and surrealism, scattered spasmodically with absurdist comedy. The sound design is particularly striking...The film regularly spasms into surreal interludes that represent the protagonist's own fractured psyche, but there is solace to be had in this peculiar world.”
Review by George Chadwick, Raindance Film Festival

asianpopupcinema.org/dobugawa-dream
**LIFE: UNTITLED**

**CHICAGO PREMIERE**

*Streaming September 15 - 19*

Japan | 2019 | Drama | 97 minutes |
In Japanese with English subtitles

**Director and Writer:** Kana Yamada

**Starring:** Sairi Ito, Yuri Tsunematsu, Reiko Kataoka, Aimi Satsukawa

**Film Source:** Third Window Films

In a sex shop on the fourth floor of a building, in a flashy room, female escorts are waiting for calls from customers. Adapted from her own stage play, Kana Yamada's directorial debut is a multi-faceted portrayal of women's lives intersecting with a Tokyo escort service. "Portraying an industry frequently exploited in Japanese media for objectifying scenes of titillation or abjection, Yamada shows sex workers' dignity and desires amidst the misogyny and violence pervading society, updating the humanistic impulses of Kenji Mizoguchi to address the contemporary alienation of labor with humor and drama."

Excerpt from *Japan Cuts 2020*.

Sairi Ito (*Love & Other Cults, Asako I & II*) stars as the protagonist, Kanou, and the film also features Yuri Tsunematsu (*Before We Vanish*), Aimi Satsukawa (*Himeanole*), Kokoro Morita (*Ice Cream and the Sound of Raindrops*) and Reiko Kataoka (*Hush*).

[asianpopupcinema.org/life-untitled](http://asianpopupcinema.org/life-untitled)

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**LIFE FINDS A WAY**

**NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE**

*Streaming September 15 – 19*

Japan | 2018 | Drama | 110 Minutes |
In Japanese with English subtitles

**Director and Scriptwriter:** Hirobumi Watanabe

**Starring:** Hirobumi Watanabe, Minori Hagiwara, Marika Matsumoto, Yako Koga, Chihiro Nagai

**Film Source:** ARTicle Films

Born out of every artist's creative crisis, the search for the next topic, Hirobumi Watanabe presents his latest film, dealing with the question of what his film should be about. The director stages himself as he idles away his days, delivering endless monologues during car rides, sleeping on the floor at his grandma's house, and philosophizing over video games and the FIFA World Cup.

"Hirobumi Watanabe is not your usual director, as proven quite eloquently in the other films of his I have watched, *Poolsideman* and *Party 'Round the Globe*, two very interesting, but also very strange productions. For his fifth film, though, Watanabe went a step even further, since he seems to have managed to shoot a movie from the fact that he had no idea of what his next movie would be about...However, one thing I can say for sure. Hirobumi Watanabe has a great sense of humor and the film is filled with it in a style filled with irony and self-sarcasm, that actually carries the movie for the most part of its duration."

Excerpt from Panos Kotzathanasis, [asianmoviepulse.com](http://asianmoviepulse.com)

[asianpopupcinema.org/life4420](http://asianpopupcinema.org/life4420)
**SEPTEMBER**

10 **Paper Flower**
(South Korea)
Davis Drive-in @ Lincoln Yards

10 **Diaspora: Arirang Road**
(South Korea)
Streaming

15 **Life Finds A Way**
(Japan)
Streaming

15 **A Dobugawa Dream**
(Japan)
Streaming

15 **Life: Untitled**
(Japan)
Streaming

22 **Walking Dharma**
(Taiwan)
Streaming

22 **Happy-Go-Lucky Days**
(Japan)
Streaming

22 **Formosan B.B. Is Coming**
(Taiwan)
Streaming

22 **Water with Life**
(Japan/Taiwan)
Streaming

22 **A Touch of Spring**
(Canada/China)
Streaming

29 **Best Director**
(China)
Streaming

29 **All About ING**
(China)
Streaming

29 **Beyond the Dream**
(Hong Kong)
Davis Drive-in @ Lincoln Yards

**OCTOBER**

01 **The Climbers**
(Hong Kong/China)
Davis Drive-in @ Lincoln Yards

03 **Edward**
(Philippines)
Davis Drive-in @ Lincoln Yards

06 **Men On the Dragon**
(Hong Kong)
Streaming

06 **Women Who Flirt**
(Hong Kong)
Streaming

09 **My Prince Edward**
(Hong Kong)
Davis Drive-in @ Lincoln Yards

10 **Beyond the Dream**
(Hong Kong)
Davis Drive-in @ Lincoln Yards

30 **Train to Busan**
(South Korea)
Davis Drive-in @ Lincoln Yards

31 **Peninsula**
(South Korea)
Davis Drive-in @ Lincoln Yards
FORMOSAN B.B. IS COMING
U.S. PREMIERE
Streaming September 22 - 26
Taiwan | 2019 | Documentary | 120 minutes |
In Mandarin with English subtitles
Director: Mai Chueh-ming
Film Source: Activator Marketing Co. Ltd.

Decades of over development, illegal hunting and frequent human activities in the mountains have caused the Taiwan Black Bear’s near extinction. Since 2008, the experienced mountaineer/director Mai led his team to document Professor Huang Mei-show, the only researcher who studied the Taiwan Black Bear deep in the forest miles away from civilization. Through the film’s visual aesthetics, viewers can explore the beauty of the Taiwanese mountains, get a sense of the research and filming teams’ passion for the bears, and the painful ordeal bears all over the world experience.

asianpopucinema.org/Formosan-bb-is-coming

WATER WITH LIFE
U.S. PREMIERE
Streaming September 22 - 26
Japan/Taiwan | 2019 | Documentary | 46 min |
In Mandarin with English subtitles
Director: Takashi Komuro
Film Source: Activator Marketing Co. Ltd.

Water with Life is the world’s first 8K high resolution environmental documentary. A groundbreaking collaboration between Delta Electronics Foundation in Taiwan and NHK Enterprises in Japan, it was broadcast for over a year on NHK BS 8K/4K channel but never shown outside of Asia. Featuring Taiwan’s and Japan’s waterscape throughout four seasons, the film takes audiences on an unprecedented journey that enables viewers to take a close look into the water habitat, the lives relying on water, and the impact and destruction caused by global warming.

asianpopucinema.org/water-with-life
WHALE ISLAND

U.S. PREMIERE

Streaming September 22 - 26
Taiwan | 2020 | Documentary | 108 min | In Mandarin with English subtitles

Director: Huang Chia-chun
Film Source: Activator Marketing Co. Ltd.

Although Taiwan is an island surrounded by the sea, its people have feared it since their politics, history and religious beliefs make its citizens turn their backs on the sea.

Oceanic literature author Liao Hung-chi and underwater photographer Ray Chin lead the audience out to sea and into the water. They prompt us to understand the sea and to think about the possibility that it might become our lives. Metaphorically Taiwan is not only an island but also a sleeping whale. Since a whale does not belong on land, it must wake up and swim towards its future full of possibilities.

asianpopucinema.org/whale-island

WALKING DHARMA

U.S. PREMIERE

Streaming September 22-26
Taiwan | 2019 | Documentary | 72 minutes | In Mandarin with English subtitles

Directors: Hsieh Hsih-chih, Chen Chih-an
Starring: Rui-Huang chen, Mei-Zhi song, Hui-Xiong yu
Film Source: Creative Century Entertainment

In giving without expecting any reward, you will see the power of companionship. There's a group of volunteers working silently in Taitung, Taiwan, taking care of the elderly who live alone, orphaned teenagers, patients fighting cancer and people who are struggling with their stressful lives in the dark corners of society.

The directors interacted with the subjects for more than a year and a half for this documentary. Filming 7,000 minutes of this group of people with a combination of more than 500 years of age, it bears witness to the challenges and hardships of the volunteers, the warmth and happiness in their camaraderie, and the power of mutual help. Some key people in the film may have passed on, but the warmth they projected lives on through the new volunteers.

asianpopucinema.org/walking-dharma
TSUNMA, TSUNMA: MY SUMMER WITH THE FEMALE MONASTICS OF THE HIMALAYA
U.S. PREMIERE
Streaming September 22–26
Taiwan | 2018 | Documentary | 70 minutes |
In Mandarin and Tibetan with English subtitles
Director: Lin Li-fang
Film Source: Activator Marketing Co. Ltd.

Tsunma, an honorific term suggests “noble, delicate, and pure,” and refers to the female monastics, the nuns of Tibetan Buddhism in the Himalayan Region. For the most part, they have been dismissed or forgotten by the traditions they follow and the societies they have served.

Taiwanese photographer Lin Li-fang undertook a solo journey up 4,270 meters into the Himalayan Plateau and lived for an entire summer with some of these nuns. She recorded life in their unforgiving environment dubbed The Roof of the World.

Li-fang captured a life devoted to hope and faith and the people who possess a unique kind of tolerance, humility, and perseverance. Viewers will see their own life through the Nuns of the Himalayas - a life lived in faith with the spark of an eternal summer.

BEST DIRECTOR
U.S. PREMIERE
Streaming September 29 – October 3
China | 2019 | Drama | 93 minutes |
In Mandarin and local Shanxi dialect with English subtitles
Director: Zhang Xian
Starring: Jin Jing-cheng, Jiang Chu-yi
Film Source: Parallax

Zhang and Shanni are a couple with successful careers in Beijing.
Zhang is a director of some renown from Shanxi, whose film just won a prize abroad. Shanni is a fashion magazine photographer from Guangdong. They planned to get a marriage certificate and embark on an extended honeymoon, but their families were opposed to it. So they were forced to hold a traditional wedding.

While preparing for the wedding, local friends in Zhang’s hometown take him for a famous director, and use their connection to him to try to obtain various favors. Meanwhile, both families have to cope with seemingly endless conflicts caused by cultural differences between north and south China. A series of struggles over values, lifestyle, and family rituals quickly transforms into an absurd farce.

asianpopupcinema.org/best-director

asianpopupcinema.org/tsunma-tsunma
ALL ABOUT ING
U.S. PREMIERE
Streaming September 29 - October 3
China | 2019 | Drama | 110 Minutes |
In Cantonese with Chinese/English subtitles
Director: Huang Zi
Starring: Ko Hon-man, Pang Hang-ying, Sit Lap-yin
Film Source: Parallax

Everything changes for the ING family when Weiming, the husband and father, is diagnosed with terminal cancer. The mother, Muling, who is the main supporter has become more isolated, while the son, Yiming, is no longer certain about his future plans although he has been accepted to study abroad. The conflicted family returns to Weiming’s hometown for the tomb-sweeping ritual, but his original mountain tomb has been replaced by a newly built hotel.

Winner of Grand Jury Prize of FIRST International Film Festival, the film portrays the daily life of a family in a restrained tone, builds a story from the different perspectives of the family members, and achieves the climax without creating any dramatic moments.

asianpopupcinema.org/all-about-ing

A TOUCH OF SPRING
CHICAGO PREMIERE
Streaming September 29 – October 3
Canada/China | 2017 | Drama | 87 Minutes |
In Mandarin and French w/ English subtitles
Director and Screenwriter: He Xiaodan
Starring: Yan Wen-si, Émile Proulx Cloutier, Zhao Xuan, Yan Cheng, Cui Ke-fa
Film Source: Film Options International

Li Fang is a Chinese immigrant who has been living in Montreal for over 10 years. Her infertility and her violent separation from her Québécois husband, Eric, have pushed her to the brink of despair. Escaping the chaos in Montreal, Li Fang visits her grandfather in Dazu, her birthplace in south China. The support and inspiration provided by her family and an old lover helps her break the impasse in her life.

“A Touch of Spring is a drama about new beginnings touching upon issues such as culture, gender and family. Director He Xiaodan’s down-to-earth approach to the subject make her story quite relatable and touching, which is, to no small amount, also because of the great performances of her cast.” – Excerpt from Rouven Linnarz, asianmoviepulse.com

asianpopupcinema.org/spring31620
Congratulations to the Asian Pop-Up Cinema on its Season 11!

This season, we are connecting with our audience in a slightly different format. But our passion in promoting “Made in Hong Kong” movies is just as strong.

Hong Kong's rich and vibrant film industry has always been an important player in the global cinema. While martial arts films have been the most acclaimed genre, many of our new generation film talents are producing comedy or romantic dramas which are in keeping with the pulse of the society. These movies make you laugh and bring you to tears at the same time. Our selections for this season are fine examples.

Be it at the drive-in theater or in the comfort of your home online, please enjoy our movies. I hope the next time when I see you, we will all be together at a movie theater in the Windy City!

Candy Nlp
Director
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office
New York
**MEN ON THE DRAGON**
**CHICAGO PREMIERE**
**FREE FOR 400 VIEWS**

*Streaming October 6-10*

Hong Kong | 2018 | Sports/Comedy | 92 minutes |
In Cantonese with English subtitles

**Director:** Sunny Chan

**Starring:** Francis Ng, Poon Chan Leung, Kenny Wong, Tony Wu Tsz-tung, Nancy Wu, Jennifer Yu

**Film Source:** One Cool Pictures

Lung, Tai, Suk-Yi and William are happy-go-lucky employees of a broadband network company who muddle their way through each day at work. When massive layoffs are expected, they pledge their loyalty to the company by signing up for the newly formed dragon boat team. When they embark on their rigorous training, they’re inevitably forced to face the respective mid-life crises they have been dodging. As they rekindle their long-lost fighting spirit, they begin to welcome life’s challenges.

"Men on the Dragon Invigorates Hong Kong’s Indie Scene." - Variety

"Man Po Cheung’s cinematography includes some impressive images, particularly during the rowing sessions, while Alan Wai-Lun Cheng’s editing provides the film with a relatively fast pace that suits its aesthetics quite nicely." – asiatmoviepulse.com

asianpopupcinema.org/dragon31420

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**WOMEN WHO FLIRT**

*Streaming October 6-10*

Hong Kong | 2014 | Comedy/Romance | 97 minutes |
In Mandarin with English subtitles

**Director:** Pang Ho-cheung

**Starring:** Zhou Xun, Sonia Sui, Sie Yi-Lin, Huang Xiao-ming,

**Film Source:** China Lion Films

Angie and Marco’s friendship since college is so tight that they presume they are buddies forever until Marco falls for a girl whom he met on a business trip. Angie’s true feelings come to the surface, but will she be able to sabotage the new couple and speak up?

Shot on locations in Shanghai and Taiwan, *Women Who Flirt* is an “ultra-pop confection.” Director Pang once again proves to be one of the most talented and versatile directors on the Asian scene. This film opened Asian Pop-Up Cinema’s inaugural season in the fall of 2015, so we are presenting a special encore to celebrate the 5th anniversary of our festival.

"Rom-com covers familiar territory, with style." – The Washington Post

"He [director and co-writer Pang Ho-cheung] gives *Women Who Flirt* a ’60s new-wave feel, with speedy flashbacks, breathless transitions and swipes at other lovey-dovey flicks. If its payoff is predictably drippy, the movie quickly regains its comic mojo with a credit-sequence parody of a ’90s Hollywood romance." – The Washington Post

"Hong Kong director and co-writer Pang Ho-Cheung sends up gender stereotypes and reinforces them in his contemporary yet not quite fresh confection, zeroing in on certain women’s girly wiles." – The Los Angeles Times

asianpopupcinema.org/women-who-flirt
ABOUT SOPHIA’S CHOICE

Founded by international film and cultural curator Sophia Wong Boccio, SOPHIA’S CHOICE is a Chicago-based 501 C(3) not-for-profit cultural organization incorporated in May, 2015. Our vision is to foster an appreciation for diverse Asian cultures. We realize our vision through a multi-pronged mission to:

• cultivate an interest in and understanding of Asian cultures via a diverse offering of Asian films;
• connect the Asian film industry with local Chicago film students, educators and professionals; and
• promote Chicago as a destination for international visitors.

Asian Pop-Up Cinema (亞洲躍動電影展) (APUC) is a semi-annual film festival—spring and fall—that provides a platform for specially curated Asian films in their original languages with English subtitles. Films were presented primarily at the AMC River East 21 in Chicago – plus other live pop-up events – before COVID-19. Thanks to our diverse community partners and sponsors, we continue to present virtual and outdoor events across the city in 2020.

Since our inaugural season in the fall of 2015 through Season 10 in the spring of 2020, APUC has premiered over 140 screenings of contemporary Asian films from mainland China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. By hosting one event at a time, each APUC selected film and its filmmaker receive their own spotlight, resulting in a more meaningful dialogue with the audience and media. Based on the filmmaker’s availability, we also collaborate with other professional and academic institutions nationally and internationally to create outreach opportunities such as encore screenings, classroom lectures, panel discussions and industry networking, ensuring their visits to Chicago are as fulfilling as possible for both the filmmakers and the city.

Year 2020 is the 5th anniversary of Asian Pop-Up Cinema. Our bi-annual film festival continues to attract the curious of contemporary Asian films rarely released theatrically in America, as well as the rapidly growing Asian American population who want to understand more about their heritage through rich storytelling. This unique experience can only happen with generous support from you. Please make a donation to Asian Pop-Up Cinema and help fulfill our commitment to advance Chicago as one of the world’s most diversified arts and culture capitols. Donations can be made online: asianpopupcinema.org/donations.

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Thanks to the general operating grants awarded by The Arts for Illinois Relief Fund, The Macarthur Funds for Culture, Equity, and The Arts at the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, CityArts, and a special 5th anniversary gift granted by the BMO Harris Bank, our festival is able to contract a team of seasonal hires for Season 11.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank the following companies and individuals for their generous gifts and assistance in the planning and presentation of Season 11:

Adam Torel, ADG Group, Amando Lao, Anita Yu Hui-fei & Jeff Hsu, Ben Lou, Chen Jie, Chris Huang, Chris Kim, Elly Lai, Emily & John Chen, Felix Tsang, Heeju Han, Hiroko Hikuchi, Inoue Wataru, Isabelle Legault, JanPaul Ferrer, Jason Chae, Jin Park, Jonathan Alvarez, Joseph Yu, Joshua Price, Juliet Chen, Laki Siap, Liuying Cao, Mabel Menard, Mami Furukawa, Matthieu Eberhardt, Melissa Palma, Michael C. Boccio, Michelle Leung, Michelle Son, Min Zhang, Bronwyn Poole & Peter Schmitz, Pearl Cheung, Qi Wang, Ray Whui, Remi Yamashiro, Robert Lundberg, Sabrina Rheaume, Sin Wang, Stephen Toyoda, Tanner Stechnij, Thop Nazareno, William Gruenberg, Yuki Solomon, and Yalin Chi.

Matching gifts received from: Crowe LLP and TransUnion

SEASON 11 FESTIVAL VISUAL ARTIST

Yu Shu-fan, was born in China in 1938 and was a middle school literature teacher and is now retired. At age 76, she started exploring her interest in painting and taught herself traditional Chinese style in water color paintings. Every piece is an inspiration from deep within her heart. She came to Chicago to visit her family in December 2019 and due to the worldwide pandemic, she has been unable to travel back to her homeland. This situation inspired her to occupy her time creating new watercolor art. Her work is now being sold and collected in Chicago.

TICKETING INFORMATION:

FAQ is listed on asianpopupcinema.org/tickets for the entire film festival.

Individual tickets:
$5 streaming rental per film. Each film is capped for 400 views. Tickets sold via festivalscope.com/page/apuc and click on the film you wish to watch.
$15 per vehicle @ Davis Drive-in. Sold via asianpopupcinema.org/tickets or click through each film page’s “Buy Tickets” button.

Discounted Pass:
Drive-in Pass including Halloween Treat (September 10 to October 31, 2020) $65 covering 5 paid drive-in screenings via asianpopupcinema.org/tickets.

Note: October 3 Filipino film Edward’s screening is a fundraiser, excluded from the Drive-in Pass.

All ticket sales are final, non-refundable and non-exchangeable.
All programs are subject to change. In order to receive up-to-date screening information, please subscribe to receive our weekly e-newsletters by registering at asianpopupcinema.org/subscribe.

Additional inquiries:
Email: asianpopupinfo@gmail.com
A BIG thank you goes to Season 11’s TEAM APUC with members based in Chicago, Hong Kong, Paris and Tokyo. TEAM APUC is the incredible driving force behind the successful planning and implementation of the new virtual/drive-in combo Festival. Without your dedication and commitment to details, the Festival would not be possible. Bravos TEAM APUC!

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