SOPHIA’S CHOICE

proudly presents

ASIAN

POP-UP CINEMA

Season SEVEN

September 12 - November 14, 2018

Contemporary Asian films with English subtitles

YOUR PASSPORT TO ASIAN CINEMA

www.asianpopupcinema.org
Welcome to Asian Pop-Up Cinema - Season SEVEN! We are excited to again present a new slate of culturally rich films from across Asia, from September 12 to November 14, 2018. The seventeen titles in this series include five North American premieres, three U.S. premieres and six Midwest/Chicago premieres. Filmmakers based in Cambodia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand bring their compelling stories to Chicago through Asian Pop-Up Cinema. For the first time, the lineup includes three exceptional documentaries set in remote villages on the Tibetan plateau, in India and in Vietnam respectively. Thanks to our generous sponsors, co-presenters and cultural partners, nine films are presented free and open to the public (learn more on pages 10, 11, 13, 21, 25).

We strive to bring you a diverse and entertaining program that reflects contemporary society and cinema across Asia. Explore our largest lineup yet of guests joining us from the other side of the world, and book your tickets early so you’re sure to meet them. See you at the movies!

Sophia Wong Boccio
Founder & Executive Director of Sophia’s Choice
presenter of Asian Pop-Up Cinema

SEASON SEVEN GUESTS

Kim In-seon (South Korea) - Writer-Director of Opening Night Film: Adulthood
Lee Jae-in (South Korea) - Leading Actress of Opening Night Film: Adulthood
Recipient of ADG BRIGHT STAR AWARD

Fung Chih-chiang (Hong Kong) - Director of Centerpiece Film: Concerto Of The Bully
Chet Chan (Hong Kong) - Art Director of Centerpiece Film: Concerto Of The Bully

Lee Rui-jun (China) - Director of Walking Past the Future
Zhang Min (China) - Producer of Walking Past the Future

Raya Martin (The Philippines) - Director of Smaller and Smaller Circles
Hsu Chih-yen (Taiwan) - Director of Dear Ex
Bongkok Bencharongkul (Thailand) - Director of Sad Beauty
Takayuki Hamatsu (Japan) - Leading actor of Closing Night Film: One Cut Of The Dead

All films are shown in their original language with English subtitles. Screenings held at the AMC River East 21 include a post-film Q&A moderated by Ron Falzone, Associate Professor of Cinema and Television Arts at Columbia College Chicago.

(See page 30 for additional venues information.)

More info: www.asianpopupcinema.org

Connect with us:
E: asianpopupinfo@gmail.com
FB: facebook.com/SophiasChoicePresents
Twitter: asianpopupcinema
Instagram: asianpopupcinema
Vimeo: vimeo.com/asianpopupcinema
ADULTHOOD (어른도감)

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
South Korea | August 2018 Release | 91 Minutes | DCP
In Korean w/English subtitles
Genre: Drama

Director: Kim In-seon
Starring: Um Tae-goo, Lee Jae-in, Seo Jeong-yeon
ADG BRIGHT STAR AWARD Recipient - Lee Jae-in
Film Source: M-Line Distribution

This is the story of Kyung-un, a strong, plucky fourteen-year-old, and her “never really grown up” uncle. At her father’s funeral, Kyung-un meets her uncle Jae-min for the first time. Jae-min, a sweet-talker living off of older ladies’ money, manages to con his niece out of her father’s insurance money. To get her money back, Kyung-un agrees to play Jae-min’s daughter so he can earn the trust of his next victim, a lonely pharmacist. As the scheme thickens, the relationship among these three characters changes in unexpected ways.

asianpopupcinema.org/adulthood91218
Introduction and Q&A with

SMALLER AND SMALLER CIRCLES

U.S. PREMIERE
The Philippines | 2017 | 112 Minutes | DCP
In English and Tagalog w/English subtitles
Genre: Crime Drama

Director: Raya Martin
Starring: Nonie Buencamino, Sid Lucero, Bembol Roco, Carla Humphries
Film Source: Dark Star Pictures

On the first Saturday of every month, a serial-killer kidnaps and mutilates street children in the slums of Manila. But in a city of millions of people, nobody cares about a victim who’s just one more nameless kid. With the help of journalist Joanna Bonifacio, Father Gus and his colleague Father Jerome investigate the murders. Adapted from the award-winning, bestselling novel of the same name by Filipino author F.H. Batacan, director Martin tells the story of Smaller and Smaller Circles in a “rigorous and precise manner...illustrating the best and worst of human nature.” The film highlights “almost all of the contradictions of the Filipino society, divided in casts and ruled by everlasting hypocrisy...”

(Excerpt from screenwriter Ria Limjap and film critic/historian Max Tessier)

asianpopupcinema.org/small91918

Wednesday, September 19
7:00 PM AMC River East 21
Introduction and Q&A with

**SAD BEAUTY (เพื่อนฉัน...ผู้นี้สลาย)**

**MIDWEST PREMIERE**
Thailand | 2018 | 91 Minutes | DCP
In Thai w/English subtitles
**Genre:** Female relationship crime drama

**Director:** Bongkod Bencharongkul
**Starring:** Florence Faivre, Pakkawadee Pengsuwan
**Film Source:** The Mosquito Films Distribution

"Part road movie, part thriller and part drug-fueled psychodrama, Sad Beauty is a brave and unexpectedly personal film about two women’s friendship directed by actress Bongkod Bencharongkul. Florence Faivre stars as a spoiled, insecure supermodel who leans on her put-upon best friend, while simultaneously taking her for granted. After a bloody encounter with a violent stepfather, the two friends experience a harrowing journey into the heart of darkness."  (Excerpt from NYAFF 2018 catalogue)

asianpopupcinema.org/sadbeauty92618

Wednesday, September 26
6:30 PM AMC River East 21
In partnership with the Office of Community Affairs at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), we are proud to present three screenings designed to spark cross-cultural conversations through film. All screenings are free and open to the public, with registration required via: asianpopupcinema.org/tickets

Exact showtimes will be available online at asianpopupcinema.org after September 5.

**SINGING WITH ANGRY BIRD**

**Friday, September 28 @ IIT**
South Korea/India | 2018 | 60 Minutes | Blu Ray DVD
In English and Hindi w/ English subtitles

**Director:** Hye-won Jee
**Genre:** Documentary
**Film Source:** POV/PBS

Jae-Chang Kim runs a children’s choir in Pune, India. Although his quick temper earned him the nickname “Angry Bird,” he has made significant changes in the lives of the choir children. But skeptical of the practical value of music education, their parents are reluctant to let them sing. In order to convince them, Angry Bird decides to train the parents with their children for a joint concert, showing them the power of music in bringing families closer together.

asianpopupcinema.org/angrybird92818

**ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS**

(東京ウィンドオーケストラ)

**Saturday, October 6 @ IIT**
U.S. PREMIERE
Japan | 2016 | 75 Minutes | Blu Ray DVD
In Japanese w/ English subtitles

**Director:** Yuichiro Sakashita
**Starring:** Miho Nakanishi, Shiori Higuchi, Mantaro Koichi, Kazuya Tachibana, Daïsuke Matsuki, Shohei Tanabe
**Genre:** Comedy/Musical-themed
**Film Source:** Shochiku Broadcasting Co. Ltd.

Instead of a famous orchestra, a townhall employee mistakenly invites the lesser-known Tokyo Wind Orchestra to Yakushima island. The ensemble members attempt to leave the island, but the employee is desperate to cover up her error, convincing them to pretend they’re the real deal. This film is the third original film production from Shochiku Broadcasting, which also produced Three Stories of Love by award-winning director Ryûsuke Hamaguchi. Through comedy skits and plenty of wit, first-time film director Sakashita depicts the chaos of the amateur group in the most enjoyable manner.

asianpopupcinema.org/thewindblow100618

**NORTH AMERICA PREMIERE**

The Asian Three-Fold Mirror project, co-produced between the Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) and the Japan Foundation Asia Center, aims to deepen mutual understanding within Asia by showcasing Asian films in Japan, Japanese films in Asia, and by bringing Asian talent to the world through TIFF. Asian Three-Fold Mirror 2016: Reflections is the inaugural series that brings together three globally acclaimed directors to co-create omnibus films with a common theme that reflects on the history and culture of the chosen countries and generates new points of light. Thanks to our co-presenter the Japan Foundation of New York, this is the premiere screening of this acclaimed program outside of Asia.

**General Producer:** Takeo Hisamitsu
The Philippines/Japan/Cambodia | 2017 | 119 Minutes | Blu Ray DVD
All three features are shown in their original language with English subtitles.

asianpopupcinema.org/reflections11318

**PIGEON**

- Japan -

**Director:** Isao Yukisada
**Cast:** Masahiko Tsugawa, Sharifah Amani, Masatoshi Nagase

Set in Penang, Malaysia, Michisaburo Tanaka lives in a large two-story home with caregivers where he keeps pigeons on the roof terrace. His son Masao comes to visit him from Japan every month, but he is disinterested and does not stay long. One day, a new caregiver, Yasmin, comes to look after Michisaburo. Soon, a bond starts to form between the two and we learn more than ever about those pigeons on the roof.

**BEYOND THE BRIDGE**

- Cambodia -

**Director:** Sotho Kulikar
**Cast:** Masaya Kato, Chumvan Sodhchavy, Osamu Shigematsu

After two years of labor, the reconstruction of the “Japanese Bridge” in Phnom Penh was completed in 1994. During that time, Fukuda, the president of the Japanese company overseeing the reconstruction, falls in love with the beautiful Mealea, promising to marry her and live in Japan together. Twenty years later, Fukuda stands by the bridge and wonders if Mealea is still alive.

Saturday, November 3: ASIAN THREE-FOLD MIRROR 2016: REFLECTIONS @ IIT
Happy 2018 Mid-Autumn Festival!
To celebrate the beautiful full moon, we are co-presenting with the Chicago Dept of Cultural Affairs & Special Events, Chicago Film Office and the Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in Chicago a heartfelt fantasy drama, Namiya. What’s more, complimentary mooncakes will be shared after the screening courtesy of the Consulate, a sweet treat for all.

Free and open to the public. Register your seats in advance at: www.asianpopupcinema.org/tickets

NAMIYA (解憂雜貨鋪)

*Tuesday, September 25, 6:30 PM @ Claudia Cassidy Theater inside the Chicago Cultural Center
China | 2017 | in Mandarin w/English Subtitles | 116 Minutes
*Genre: Fantasy Drama

*Director: Han Jie
*Starring: Jackie Chan, Zijian Dong, Dilraba Dilmurat and Karry Wang
*Film source: China Lion Film

Based on Keigo Higashino’s international bestseller The Miracles of the Namiya General Store, the film follows three orphans on the run who take refuge in a derelict corner store where they find a mysterious letter. Led by Hong Kong megastar Jackie Chan as the store owner, and starring three up-and-coming young stars from China (Dilraba Dilmurat, Dong Zijian and Karry Wong), we follow the trio on an adventure in time, finding unexpected connections with their own past along the way.

asianpopupcinema.org/namiya92518
Presented in association with the Hong Kong Economy & Trade Office New York, the
Centerpiece of Season SEVEN features two Hong Kong romantic-dramas screened as a
two-night double feature on October 2 and 3 at AMC River East. Though both films are
peppered with the sensibilities of 90’s Hong Kong, one features a modern take on the
unlikely attraction between a victim and her kidnapper, while the other chronicles the
puppy love between two astrology enthusiasts.

Introduction
and Q&A with

DIRECTOR
FUNG
CHIH-CHIANG

CONCERTO OF THE BULLY
（大樂師，為愛配樂）

CHICAGO PREMIERE
Introduction and Q&A with Director Fung
Chih-chiang and Art Director Chet Chan

Hong Kong | 2017 | 107 Minutes |
In Cantonese w/English subtitles | DCP
Genre: Romantic Drama

Director: Fung Chih-chiang
Act Director: Chet Chan

Starring: Ronald Cheng, Cherry Ngan,
Philip Keung

Film Source: Bravos Pictures Limited

Internet songwriter Chow is gifted with an
extraordinary retentive memory; she never
forgets anything she’s heard. One day, she’s
kidnapped and held on a remote fishing raft,
waiting for her pop-singer-boyfriend to pay
the ransom. Hoping to use her unique gift
to help her flee her captors, Chow offers to
give spiritual music therapy to the maniacal
kidnapper...

ART DIRECTOR
CHET CHAN

WHEN SUN MEETS MOON
（某日某月）

CHICAGO PREMIERE

Hong Kong | 2017 | 95 Minutes | DCP
In Cantonese w/English subtitles
Genre: Romantic Drama

Director: Benny Lau
Starring: Kathy Yuen, Daichi Harashima
Film Source: Emperor Motion Picture
(Hong Kong) Limited

In 1992, a heavy rainstorm caused a massive
power outage in Hong Kong. On that night,
two young astrology enthusiasts, Moon and
Sun, met under the starry sky by the seaside.
As their affection for each other grows, Sun
is admitted to boarding school and soon
moves to another country, all according to
his father’s plan. Like the sun and moon in
the sky, the couple hardly see each other, but
their love endures...

Tuesday, October 2
7:00 PM  AMC River East 21
asianpopupcinema.org/concerto100218

Wednesday, October 3
7:00 PM  AMC River East 21
asianpopupcinema.org/sun100318
OPENING NIGHT FILM
Adulthood
(South Korea)
7:00 PM
AMC River East 21

Smaller and Smaller Circles
(The Philippines)
7:00 PM
AMC River East 21

Namiya
(China)
6:30 PM
Claudia Cassidy Theater

Sad Beauty
(Thailand)
6:30 PM
AMC River East 21

Singing with Angry Bird
(South Korea/India)
Showtime TBA after Sept 5
Illinois Institute of Technology

Concerto of the Bully
(Hong Kong)
7:00 PM
AMC River East 21

When Sun Meets Moon
(Hong Kong)
7:00 PM
AMC River East 21

Any Way the Wind Blows
(Japan)
Showtime TBA after Sept 5
Illinois Institute of Technology

Walking Past the Future
(China)
7:00 PM
AMC River East 21

Ritoma
(Hong Kong/Tibet)
2:00 PM
Flashpoint Chicago

Made in Vietnam
(Canada/Vietnam)
2:00 PM
Chinese-American
Museum of Chicago

Shiniuma (Dead Horse)
(The Philippines)

Pigeon
(Japan)

Beyond the Bridge
(Cambodia)
Showtime TBA after September 5
Illinois Institute of Technology

Dear Ex
(Taiwan)
7:00 PM
AMC River East 21

Happy Hour
(Japan)
1:00 PM
The Screening Room @
The Ambassador Hotel

CLOSING NIGHT FILM
One Cut of the Dead
(Japan)
7:00 PM
AMC River East 21
Introduction and Q&A with

**DIRECTOR**
LEE
RUI-JUN

**PRODUCER**
ZHANG
MIN

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**WALKING PAST THE FUTURE**
（路過未來）

**MIDWEST PREMIERE**
China | 2017 | 129 Minutes | DCP
In Gansu dialect and Mandarin w/English subtitles
Genre: Drama

**Writer/Director:** Lee Rui-jun
**Producer:** Zhang Min, Lin Jin
**Starring:** Yang Zi-shan, Yin Fang, Li Qin-qin, Ne Ren-hua
**Film Source:** Edko Films Ltd.

Yang Yao-ting's family returns to their village in Gansu after both of her parents are laid off from their jobs in Shenzhen, only to find that life has drastically changed in the village they left 25 years earlier. Hoping to provide her family with a home in the city, Yao-ting returns to Shenzhen to take part in high-risk medical tests at a hospital.

The only Chinese film screened in the Un Certain Regard section at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival, *Walking Past the Future* is “a bleak expose on how the country's land shortage and economic downturn impacts more than just one generation.” (Maggie Lee, Variety)

[asianpopupcinema.org/walking102418](http://asianpopupcinema.org/walking102418)

Wednesday, October 24
7:00 PM AMC River East 21
RITOMA

MIDWEST PREMIERE
Hong Kong/Tibet | 2018 | 57 Minutes | Blu Ray DVD
In English or Tibetan w/English subtitles
Genre: Documentary

Director: Ruby Yang
Main Characters: Willard (Bill) Johnson, Jampa Dhundup, Dechen Yashi
Film Source: Chang Ai Media Project Ltd.

On any given day on the vast Tibetan Plateau, nomads herd their yaks and sheep, and monks recite their mantras. Locals also play one of their favorite sports – basketball. The game is so popular, makeshift courts are found in nearly every village. Next to traditional horseback riding, basketball has become a way for young men to work off their aggression and channel their energy. With the introduction of televised NBA games, the nomads of Ritoma have a new strategy for their court game. And when a proper coach arrives from the United States, “slam-dunk” becomes their new mantra. Before long, a new tournament is announced, the first in their region. Can they pull together a team that’s good enough to compete? Might they even be able to win?

Free and open to the public. RSVP required via www.asianpopucinema.org/tickets

MADE IN VIETNAM

U.S. PREMIERE
Canada/Vietnam | 2017 | 101 Minutes | Blu Ray DVD
Genre: Documentary

Director/Executive Producer: Thi Vo
Cast/3rd Cameraman/Music Producer: Kaleb Tekeste
Film Source: Double Whammy Studios

Thi Vo was a refugee who escaped from Vietnam with his mother when he was only a baby, escaping war and poverty. After fleeing to Hong Kong, they later immigrated to Canada when Thi Vo was just four years old. Thirty years later, he decides to not only find his extended family, but also to locate his father and uncover the mysteries of his past.

In this emotional, heartfelt feature documentary, Thi Vo and his friends navigate Vietnam as they search for clues about their backgrounds and connect with people who help them along their way.

Free and open to the public. RSVP required via www.asianpopucinema.org/tickets
Introduction and Q&A with

DIRECTOR

HSU

CHIH-YEN

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Taiwan | 2018 | 100 Minutes | Blu Ray DVD
In Mandarin w/ English subtitles
Genre: Drama/Family

Directors: Mag Hsu and Hsu Chih-yen
Starring: Roy Chiu and Ying-xuan Hsieh
Film Source: Dear Studio Co. Ltd.

When her husband dies, a woman and her son discover that the beneficiary of his life insurance policy is actually his male lover. Understandably, the woman reacts with anger and the son with confusion. Gradually, they begin to close in on the man, discovering the life their late husband and father had hidden from them.

Triumphant at the 2018 Taipei Film Awards, Dear Ex was awarded best narrative feature, best actress and best actor. Co-directors Mag Hsu and Hsu Chih-yen also won the Press Award for their vision of Taipei from a different perspective.

Educational Outreach screening at MSU | Free and Open to the Public
Wednesday, November 7, 7:00 PM
followed by Q&A with director Chih-Yen Hsu
Location: B115 Wells Hall, Michigan State University (MSU)
619 Red Cedar Rd., East Lansing, MI 48824
More info about this screening: Asian Studies Center, MSU https://asia.isp.msu.edu

asianpopucinema.org/dear110818

Thursday, November 8
7:00 PM AMC River East 21

(Courtesy of Michigan State University)
**Harmony**

*One word to bind us all!*

Continued success to Sophia's Choice in bringing east & west cultures together through film.

Alicia & Peter Pond

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**HAPPY HOUR**

Sunday, November 13, 1:00 PM @ The Screening Room at the Ambassador Hotel
Japan | 2016 | 317 Minutes | Blu Ray DVD
In Japanese w/English subtitles

**Genre:** Drama

**Writer/Director:** Ryusuke Hamaguchi

**Cast:** Sachie Tanaka, Hazuki Kikuchi, Maiko Mihara, Rira Kawamura

**Film Source:** Kinstim, Inc.

A powerful affirmation of the immersive potential of cinema, *Happy Hour* is a slow-burning epic chronicling the emotional journey of four thirty-something women in the misty seaside city of Kobe. As they navigate the unsteady currents of their work, home, and romantic lives, a sudden, unexpected rift opens between them that propels each to a new, richer understanding of life and love. Filmmaker Ryusuke Hamaguchi’s wise, precisely observed, compulsively watchable drama of friendship and midlife awakening runs over five hours. Yet the leisurely pace is not an indulgence, but a strategy to create a novelistic space for everyday moments to become charged with a possibility that yields a subtle emotional intensity rarely possible in a standard-length film. *Happy Hour* is far more than just an ordinary melodrama. It is a spectacularly complex and fiercely poetic rendering of the details of daily life in which ideas and feelings are swayed by the unseen forces of friendship and love, and buffeted by the weight of deception, loyalty and tradition.

Winner of awards at major international festivals—including Locarno, where stars Sachie Tanaka, Hazuki Kikuchi, Maiko Mihara and Rira Kawamura shared the Golden Leopard for Best Actress—*Happy Hour* has brought new attention to the work and career of one of Japan’s most talented young directors.

Free and Open to the Public. RSVP required; register via: www.asianpopupcinema.org/tickets

This screening will include one 20-minute intermission at about 3:30 PM. Food and drinks will be available to purchase through Booth One, the in-house restaurant at the Ambassador Hotel.

[asianpopupcinema.org/happy111118](http://asianpopupcinema.org/happy111118)

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Wishing Asian Pop-Up Cinema continued success for this and future seasons

Diana E. Harris

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Academic Achievement Institute Corp.
ONE CUT OF THE DEAD
(カメラを止めるな)

MIDWEST PREMIERE
Japan | 2018 | 96 Minutes | In Japanese w/English subtitles
Genre: Horror/Comedy/Family Drama

Director: Shinichiro Ueda
Starring: Takayuki Hamatsu, Harumi Shuhama, Kazuaki Nagaya, Mao
Film Source: Third Windows Films

A low-budget film crew about to shoot a zombie movie at a desolate warehouse is suddenly attacked by real zombies. The cruelly uncompromising director forces his resilient producer, faithful male lead, and feisty ingenue to confront the living dead head-on for the sake of capturing it all in one shot, with no consideration for their lives. Purposely built on clichés, One Cut of the Dead is one of the most original genre-bending exploits in years; It’s an exuberant homage that exudes pure passion for filmmaking.

Young director Shinichiro Ueda and his cast of non-professionals have created something fresh and entertaining which has become both a massive hit, not just in Japan, but around the world.

“Shinichiro Ueda’s marvelously inventive horror-comedy breathes new life into the zombie genre.” – Variety
“the best zombie comedy since Sean of the Dead!” - Indiewire
“***** 5 Stars! If there is one zombie film you want to watch this year make sure it’s One Cut of the Dead” – View Of the Arts
“***** 5 Stars! A charming and hilarious experience that is perfect fun!” – Eastern Kicks

Currently screening at film festivals around the world, the film is the recipient of multiple awards.
Winner - Silver Mulberry Audience Award - Udine Far East Film Festival
Winner - Audience Award - Yubari Fantastic Film Festival
Winner - Best Film - Fantaspoa Film Festival
Learn more at www.thirdwindowsfilms.com

asianpopupcinema.org/onecut111418

Introduction and Q&A with
ACTOR
Takayuki Hamatsu

Wednesday, November 14
7:00 PM AMC River East 21

(Courtesy of our festival’s Flight Angel Bronwyn Poole)
SOPHIA'S CHOICE

Founded by international film and cultural curator Sophia Wong Boccio, SOPHIA'S CHOICE (蘇菲亞的精選) 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) 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 are presented primarily at the AMC River East 21 in Chicago. Thanks to our diverse cultural partners and sponsors, we continue to add pop-up events across the city.

Since our inaugural season in the fall of 2015 through Season 6 in Spring 2018, and after over 100 screenings, APUC has premiered contemporary Asian films from China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. This season, our talent lineup grows tremendously to 10 guests—directors and actors—joining us from across Asia to discuss their films with our local audiences. By hosting one event at a time, each APUC film and its filmmakers 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 local professional and academic institutions to create outreach opportunities such as classroom lectures, panel discussions and industry networking, ensuring their visits to Chicago are as fulfilling as possible for both the filmmakers and the city.

Officers & Directors of Sophia's Choice Governing Board

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Senior Sales Manager,
The Whitehall Hotel

We thank the following companies and individuals for their gifts and assistance in the planning and presentation of Asian Pop-Up Cinema Season Seven:


SEASONAL STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Lisa Trifone – Media Relations Director – 11th Street Lot Marketing & Publicity
Dou Yin – Administrative Intern & WILL CALL Manager
Celeste Coleman – Operations Coordinator
David Baker – Festival Trailer Editor
Lisa Trifone/Bronwyn Poole – Editor/Proofreader of PASSPORT
Yuki Zheng – PASSPORT Designer & Print Coordinator
Sistah Soul Production – Festival Documentary Production Team
(led by Niko Denise Moore and team namely Clair Feniak, Bernardo Villapando & Heriberto Lazary)
Students of Flashpoint Chicago – A Campus for Columbia College Hollywood
Dan Hannula – Festival Photographer

AND all the volunteers working at the theaters & our hosting partners’ venues
MOVIE VENUES

AMC River East 21
322 East Illinois Street
amctheatres.com

Chinese-American Museum of Chicago
238 West 23rd Street
ccamuseum.org

Claudia Cassidy Theater inside the Chicago Cultural Center
78 East Washington Street
Cityofchicago.org

Flashpoint Chicago
A Campus of Columbia College Hollywood
28 North Clark Street, 5th Floor
Flashpoint.columbiacollege.edu

Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT)
10 West 35th Street
Web.iit.edu

The Screening Room at the Ambassador Hotel
1301 North State Parkway
ambassadorchicago.com

TICKETING INFORMATION:

* The following applies to screenings at AMC River East 21. For other events and screenings, please reference the event listings at asianpopupcinema.org.

* Advanced tickets and registration (for free events and student tickets) is available at asianpopupcinema.org/tickets.

* General Admission: $11 - $15 including post-screening Q&As with discounts for Seniors (65+). Students (with Valid ID) tickets are $8 Only.

* 20 FREE TICKETS FOR STUDENTS are available on a first-come, first-served basis at each ticketed screening via advanced registration at asianpopupcinema.org/tickets.

* Limited door tickets (Cash Only) are available at day of the screening. WILL CALL, located on the Box Office level (2/f), open 30 minutes prior to each screening.

All ticket sales are final, non-refundable and non-exchangeable. All programs are subject to change. For the latest news and up-to-date screening information, subscribe at asianpopupcinema.org/subscribe.

CINEMA NEW FORCE

The Hong Kong film industry has pioneered the martial arts action genre, minted international film stars, and produced countless award-winning classics for decades. In recent years, Hong Kong moving pictures have received a strong boost in policy and funding support from the government in nurturing young talents, raising capital and opening up new markets for distribution. The objectives are all the more clear: to add a new page of the Hong Kong cinema to the world stage.

The family drama “Mad World” (2016) is perhaps the greatest success story. First time director Wong Chun (黃進) won a Best New Director Hong Kong Film Award, and Eric Tsang (曾志偉) and Elaine Jin (金燕玲) won awards for Best Supporting Actor and Actress. The film was also Hong Kong’s Best Foreign Language Film entry to the 2017 Academy Awards.

Since 2013, to help inject new blood into local film production, FFFI identifies and nurtures film talent through a screenplay and production proposal competition. Prizes are awarded to students pursuing higher education in creative industries as well as for working professionals who have not directed a feature film.

Funding Promising Projects

Since 2007, the FDF has allocated funding in the region of US$20 million. The final 32 films thus produced encompass a variety of genres, and marked the feature film debut of 18 new directors and 17 new producers. A total of 20 films have gone on to win 98 awards, with 42 additional nominations.

Notable films funded by the financing scheme include the light-hearted comedy “Men on the Dragon” (2018), which had its world premiere in New York in summer, and the heart-felt award-winning drama “Tomorrow Is Another Day” (2017), which had its US debut at the Asian Pop Up Cinema in Chicago in spring 2018.
The Whitehall Hotel is a standout among boutique hotels in Chicago that sits at the confluence of the city's civic and cultural life, allowing guests an upfront view of luxury, innovation and exploration. Exquisite dining, thrilling nightlife, phenomenal public transit, unforgettable neighborhoods, and an ineffable sense of history permeate the experience.

Dining Options

Fornetto Mei
Flame Baked Pizza & Trattoria

Mei's Corner
Dumplings & Asian Small Plates

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