

For Immediate Release

## Awards Presentation Ceremony marks a successful end for The 14<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum

### *Recognition of outstanding film projects in Asia*

**Hong Kong, 16 March, 2016** – The finest filmmakers from across Asia are celebrating today after winning awards at the 14<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF). 14 awards, which are given to film projects showing the greatest amount of potential, were handed out at a presentation ceremony which marked the end of this year's HAF. The forum, which was held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, ran for three days and is one of the highlights of the Asian film calendar.

The HAF award winners were selected from 31 film projects from 15 countries and regions, including China, Denmark, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. This year, HAF received more than 350 submissions, a record-breaking number. This year's projects covered a wide range of topics and feature a mix of renowned filmmakers as well as new, up and coming talent. The total prize money across all awards amounted to approximately HK\$1,478,500 (US\$190,800) in cash and value in-kind.

**Mr. Wellington FUNG**, Assistant Head of Create Hong Kong kicked off the ceremony by presenting **HAF Awards**. *Vampire Dairy* (Hong Kong) and *The Third Wife* (Vietnam) won the categories of Hong Kong Project and Non-Hong Kong Project respectively. Presented by Create Hong Kong, Hong Kong Film Development Fund and HAF, each project won a cash prize of HK\$150,000 (approx. US\$19,300). The winners were selected by the Project Reading Committee and were praised for their originality and creativity.

Presented by this year's premium sponsor iQIYI, the **iQIYI's Special Award** went to *Dying to Survive* (China), winning a cash award of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,900). The award recognises promising young film talent from Chinese-speaking territories.

*Brothers* (Malaysia) won the **HAF/Fox Chinese Film Development Award**. Presented by 20th Century Fox International Productions (Greater China) (Fox), the award aims to encourage the development of Chinese-language cinema. The project received HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,900) and a development contract with Fox.

The **HAF Script Development Fund**, presented by Star Chinese Movies and the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited, went to *Heavy Craving* (Taiwan). As an initiative driven by Ms. Sylvia CHANG, the former Vice Chairman of the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited, this award aims to encourage quality Chinese-language scripts. The movie channel Star Chinese Movies is supporting the Script Development Fund award for the second year. A cash award of US\$10,000 (approx. HK\$77,500) was presented to the winner.

This year's **Wouter Barendrecht Award**, presented by Wouter Barendrecht Film Foundation, Create Hong Kong and Hong Kong Film Development Fund, went to *Inking a Last Masterpiece* (Japan). Dedicated to the memory of the late Wouter Barendrecht, the renowned film producer and one of the founders of HAF, this award of HK\$50,000 (approx. US\$6,450) recognises projects by a director under the age of 35 who has not made more than three feature films.

The **Fushan Documentary Award** went to *Border Bride* (Hong Kong and China), receiving a cash prize of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,900) and a development contract with Fushan Features.

This year new partners have joined HAF to present awards. The **Wanda Film Award** presented by Wanda Media Co. Ltd. celebrates a creative and original Chinese-language feature film project. The cash award of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,900) and a development contract with Wanda was awarded to *Lieutenant Yi* (Taiwan).

Another new award for this year's HAF is the **Artention Film Award** which was given to *Dying to Survive* (China). The award aims to encourage film projects that exhibit high artistic and commercial potential. *Dying to Survive* received HK\$50,000 (approx. US\$6,450) and priority entry into the Artention Film Incubator, based at Artention's International Visual Arts and Film Center in Shenzhen. With its extensive partnership in Hollywood and state-of-the-art facilities, Artention will support the winning project in its development.

Another new award for HAF 2016 is the **Wutianming Post Production Award** that aims to support young talent working on Chinese film projects. The award went to *Lhamo And Skalbe* (China), winning post-production services at the National Animation Industry Park in Tianjin that values RMB300,000 (approx. HK\$350,400).

Several valued partners returned to give awards at HAF this year.

*When the Waves are Gone* (Philippines) won the **Paris Coproduction Village Award**. The project will be invited to participate in the Paris Coproduction Village at the Champs-Élysées Film Festival 2016. One round-trip plane ticket will be offered to a representative of the project.

The **Network of Asian Fantastic Films Award**, presented by Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival, went to *Hypnotize the Jury* (Hong Kong). The winning project was awarded a round-trip plane ticket and accommodation to participate in the 2016 Network of Asian Fantastic Films project market, which will take place during Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival in July in South Korea.

This year's **White Light Post-Production Award**, designed to promote cinematic innovation and promising Asian directors, went to *The Third Wife* (Vietnam). The winner received post-production services by White Light Studio in Bangkok, Thailand worth US\$15,000 (approx. HK\$116,200).

The final award was presented by G2D from Thailand. **G2D Post Production Award** went to *Border Bride* (Hong Kong and China). The film project won post-production services, including laboratory services, digital imaging and sound services, which is worth US\$10,000 (approx. HK\$77,500).

**Mr. Jacob WONG**, Curator of the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society and HAF Director, said, "The award panels had many tough decisions to make. Thanks to the high quality of the entries across the board, the projects come from across Asia and cover many different genres but what links them all together is their quality."

**Mr. Roger GARCIA**, Executive Director of the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society, praised the excellence and diversity of all shortlisted film projects. "I would like to congratulate the winners and would also like to pay tribute to all the filmmakers in Asia who submitted films – the breadth and depth of the industry is outstanding. We are also very grateful to the continued support of Create Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Film Development Fund that are dedicated to supporting both local production and Hong Kong's position as a regional film hub. We thank our

partners – both returning and new – who have shown their confidence in the value and appeal of HAF and its selection of projects.”

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## Appendix: The completelist of HAF awards winners

**HAF Awards** presented by Create Hong Kong, Hong Kong Film Development Fund and the Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF). *Award value: Two cash awards of HK\$300,000 (approx. US\$38,700)*

### HAF Awards (Hong Kong Project)

#### Vampire Diary 屍奔日記

Hong Kong 香港

Directors 導演：Anthony YAN 甄栢榮, Hang CHIU 趙善恆

Producers 監製：HA Yu 夏雨, Mani MAN 文佩卿

Production Company 製作公司：mm2 Entertainment Hong Kong Limited

### HAF Awards (Non-Hong Kong Project)

#### The Third Wife (working title)

Vietnam 越南

Director 導演：NGUYEN Phuong Anh

Producer 監製：TRAN Thi Bich Ngoc

Production Companies 製作公司：An Nam Films, Three Colors Productions

**iQIYI's Special Award** presented by iQIYI. *Award value: One cash award of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,900)*

#### Dying to Survive 生命之路

China 中國

Director 導演：WEN Muye 文牧野

Producer 監製：NING Hao 寧浩

Production Company 製作公司：Mountain of Flowers Films Co. Ltd. 花滿山（上海）影業有限公司

**HAF/Fox Chinese Film Development Award** presented by 20th Century Fox. *Award value: One cash award of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,900) and a development contract with 20th Century Fox International Productions (Greater China)*

#### Brothers 三哥

Malaysia 馬來西亞

Director 導演：Jong YU 于中中

Producers 監製：Jin ONG 王禮霖, Roland LEE 李治成

Production Company 製作公司：More Entertainment Sdn. Bhd. 摩爾娛樂有限公司

**HAF Script Development Fund** presented by Star Chinese Movies and the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited. *Award value: One cash award of US\$10,000 (approx. HK\$77,500)*

#### Heaving Craving 大餓

Taiwan 台灣

Screenplay Writer 編劇：Pei-Ju HSIEH 謝沛如

Director 導演：Pei-Ju HSIEH 謝沛如

Producer 監製：Jing WANG 王婧

Production Company 製作公司：Will Work 4 Food Productions Inc.

**Wouter Barendrecht Award** presented by Wouter Barendrecht Film Foundation, Create Hong Kong and Hong Kong Film Development Fund. *Award value: One cash award of HK\$50,000 (approx. US\$6,450)*

**Inking a Last Masterpiece**

**Japan 日本**

Director 導演：UCHIJIMA Ustake 內島悠介  
Producer 監製：KAWABATA Kohei 川畑耕平  
Production Company 製作公司：Pao Network

**Fushan Documentary Award** presented by Fushan Features. *Award value: One cash award of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,900) and a development contract with Fushan Features*

**Border Bride 女人**

**Hong Kong 香港, China 中國**

Director 導演：WANG Bing 王兵  
Producer 監製：Isabelle GLACHANT 伊莎  
Production Company 製作公司：Chinese Shadows

**Wanda Film Award** presented by Wanda Media Co. Ltd. *Award value: One cash award of HK\$100,000 (approx. US\$12,900) and a development contract with Wanda*

**Lieutenant Yi 易副官**

**Taiwan 台灣**

Director 導演：René LIU 劉若英  
Producers 監製：Sylvia CHANG 張艾嘉, Patricia CHENG Lai-chan 莊麗真  
Production Company 製作公司：YinYi Studio Ltd. 英兒工作室有限公司

**The Artention Film Award** presented by Artention Films Corp. *Award value: One cash award of HK\$50,000 (approx. US\$6,450) and priority entry into Artention Film Incubator*

**Dying to Survive 生命之路**

**China 中國**

Director 導演：WEN Muye 文牧野  
Producer 監製：NING Hao 寧浩  
Production Company 製作公司：Mountain of Flowers Films Co. Ltd. 花滿山（上海）影業有限公司

**Wutianming Post Production Award** presented by China Film Foundation – Wutianming Fund For Young Talents. *Award value: Post-production services by the National Animation Industry Park in Tianjin, worth RMB 300,000 (approx. HK\$350,400)*

**Lhamo And Skalbe 拉姆與嘎貝**

**China 中國**

Director 導演：Sonthar Gyal (Songtaijia) 松太加  
Producer 監製：Sonam Rinchen Gyal (Suonanrenqingjia) 索南仁青加  
Production Company 製作公司：Beijing Garuda Films & TV Culture Communication Co. Ltd.  
北京穹慶影視文化傳播有限責任公司

**Paris Coproduction Village Award** presented by Champs-Élysées Film Festival 2016. *Award value: One in-kind award of Euro 4,000 (approx. HK\$36,000)*

**When the Waves are Gone**

**Philippines 菲律賓**

Director 導演：Lav DIAZ 拉夫·狄亞茲  
Producers 監製：Bianca BALBUENA, Bradley LIEW 廖忠權  
Production Company 製作公司：Epicmedia Productions Inc.

**Network of Asian Fantastic Films Award** presented by Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival. *Award value: One in-kind award of US\$2,700 (approx. HK\$20,900)*

**Hypnotize the Jury 催眠裁決**

**Hong Kong 香港**

Directors 導演：Paul SZE Pak-lam 施柏林, Kenneth LAI Siu-kwan 黎兆鈞

Producer 監製：TIN Kai-man 田啟文

Production Company 製作公司：Vow Production Limited

**White Light Post-Production Award** presented by White Light Studio in Bangkok, Thailand. *Award value: Post-production services by White Light Studio in Bangkok, Thailand, worth US\$15,000 (approx. HK\$116,200)*

**The Third Wife (working title)**

**Vietnam 越南**

Director 導演：NGUYEN Phuong Anh

Producer 監製：TRAN Thi Bich Ngoc

Production Companies 製作公司：An Nam Films, Three Colors Productions

**G2D Post Production Awards** presented by G2D from Thailand. *Award value: Post-production services worth US\$10,000 (approx. HK\$77,500)*

**Border Bride 女人**

**Hong Kong 香港, China 中國**

Director 導演：WANG Bing 王兵

Producer 監製：Isabelle GLACHANT 伊莎

Production Company 製作公司：Chinese Shadows



### **About The Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF)**

The Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) is widely recognized as an established film financing platform in Asia. The HAF brings Asian filmmakers with upcoming film projects to Hong Kong for co-production ventures with top film financiers, producers, bankers, distributors and buyers. Attracting more than 1,000 filmmakers and financiers from at least 35 countries and regions, around 25 to 30 projects are selected annually to participate in the three-day event.

HAF has partnered with international organisations to provide a range of opportunities to participants. Partners include iQIYI (China), Fox International Productions (Greater China) (US), Cinemart (the Netherlands), Asian Project Market (South Korea), Independent Film Project (US), Golden Horse Film Project Promotion (Taiwan), New Cinema Network (Italy) and others. Cash and in-kind awards to the value of around US\$150,000 are made with support from Create Hong Kong and Film Development Fund among others.

Past participants include China's JIA Jiangke, JIANG Wen, LU Chuan and NING Hao; Hong Kong's Peter CHAN, Stanley KWAN, Ann HUI, Fruit CHAN and PANG Ho-cheung; Taiwan's TSAI Ming-Liang, WEI Te-Sheng, CHUNG Mong-Hong and Leon DAI; Japan's KORE-EDA Hirokazu, KUROSAWA Kiyoshi, KAWASE Naomi and IWAI Shunji; South Korea's PARK Chan-wook, KIM Jee-woon, BONG Joon-ho and IM Sang-soo; as well as Thailand's Apichatpong WEERASETHAKUL, Ekachai UEKRONGTHAM, Nonzee NIMIBUTR and Pen-ek RATANARUANG.

### **About The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited (HKIFFS)**

#### **Uniting the World through Film**

The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society (HKIFFS) is a charitable, non-profit and non-governmental organisation dedicated to the discovery and promotion of creativity in the art and culture of film.

Committed to the development of a vibrant film culture in Hong Kong and Asia, the Society organises two annual flagship events in March and April: "Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF)" and "Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF)." "HKIFF Cine Fan", a monthly screening programme features a variety of curated contemporary, retrospective and thematic showcases was also launched in April 2013.

Through its year-round programmes, the mission of the Society is to strengthen global appreciation of Asian and Chinese film culture and to promote inspiring films from around the world, enriching the cultural life of Hong Kong.

Passionately believing in the power of films to unite cultures and generations, the HKIFFS is devoted to giving thousands of film lovers around the region direct access to the world's most inspired films all year round.

### **About 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox Film**

One of the world's largest producers and distributors of motion pictures, 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox Film produces, acquires and distributes motion pictures throughout the world. These motion pictures are produced or acquired by the following units of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox Film: Twentieth Century Fox,

Fox 2000 Pictures, Fox Searchlight Pictures, Fox International Productions, Twentieth Century Fox Animation and Blue Sky Studios.

### **About SCM**

SCM (formerly STAR Chinese Movies), part of the FOX International Channels network, is the no. 1 Chinese movies channel in Asia and is the premier destination for lovers of blockbuster Chinese cinema, with more than 1,000 titles in its film inventory. SCM is dedicated to providing first-run, premium content as well as cutting-edge advanced services. Premiering box-office hits from Hong Kong, Mainland China and Taiwan, SCM guarantees exclusives from top Chinese and Asian producers and major studios such as Emperor Motion Pictures, Media Asia, Pegasus and Fortune Star. In addition to hit movies, SCM also offers a powerful combination of live events, major concerts and acclaimed Asian documentaries in Cantonese or Mandarin with Chinese and English as well as Bahasa Indonesia and Thai subtitles. This unrivalled content together with HD viewing, a VOD service and a market-leading online catch-up service called SCM Play, the channel provides an unmatched entertainment experience.

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