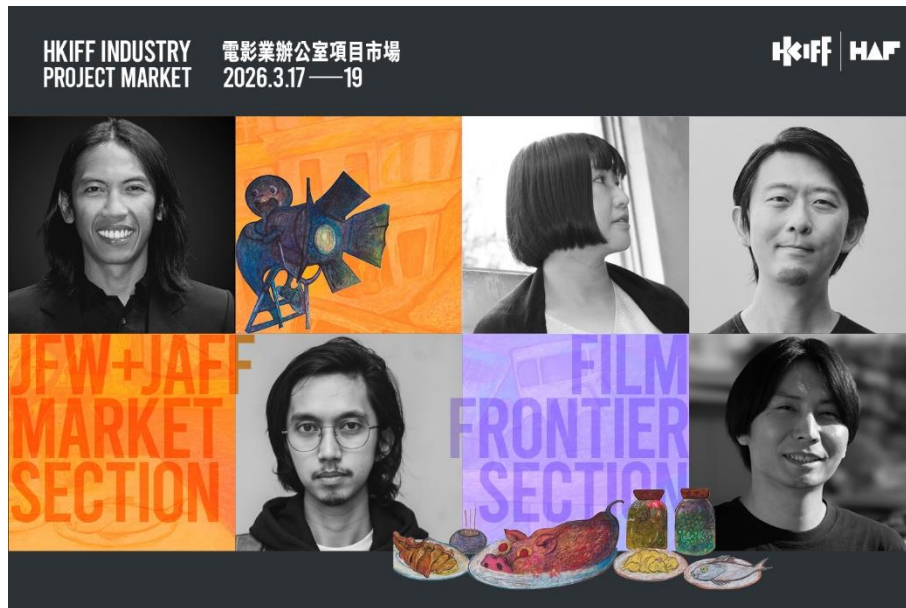


For Immediate Release

## HKIFF INDUSTRY PROJECT MARKET BRINGS FOUR HOT PROJECTS FROM INDONESIA AND JAPAN THROUGH NEW INITIATIVES



**Hong Kong, 20 February 2026** – The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society (HKIFFS) will present four projects at the upcoming HKIFF Industry Project Market, selected in collaboration with Jakarta Film Week and JAFF Market from Indonesia, as well as the Japan Creator Support Fund.

All four projects are currently in the development and financing stage: *A Life Full of Holes* by Loeloe Hendra Komara, *PingPong* by Najam Yardo, *Unknown Face* by Kusano Natsuka, and the animation *HIDARI* by Kawamura Masashi and Ogawa Iku.

These projects will join the 42 previously announced in-development and work-in-progress projects for the 24<sup>th</sup> edition of the Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF24) at the HKIFF Industry Project Market, which runs from 17 to 19 March at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, coinciding with the 30<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film & TV Market (FILMART).

### JAKARTA FILM WEEK & JAFF MARKET SECTION

Building on last year's successful Jakarta Film Week partnership, HKIFF Industry is expanding the partnership to include JAFF Market to further support Indonesia's vibrant film sector. The collaboration is backed by Indonesia's Ministry of Culture through its National Talent Management programme.

Vivian Idris, promoter of National Talent Management for Film, said: "The ongoing collaboration with HKIFF Industry plays a crucial role in creating a sustainable platform for the development and networking of Indonesian talents and projects within the Asian and international film circuits."

This year, two outstanding projects from Indonesia have been chosen for this section:

*A Life Full of Holes* by Loeloe Hendra Komara (*Tale of the Land*, Busan 2024) follows a 17-year-old girl who dreams of becoming a content creator while caring for her young siblings after her mother leaves to work overseas as a migrant worker.

*PingPong*, inspired by director Najam Yardo's personal experiences, follows a disgraced Olympian banned from table tennis. Forced underground to earn a living from the sport, she struggles to care for her senile father while navigating a strained relationship with her son.

## FILM FRONTIER SECTION

HKIFF Industry's separate collaboration with the Japan Creator Support Fund will introduce a new Film Frontier section, highlighting the next generation of Japanese filmmakers actively seeking international co-production and collaboration opportunities.

"We are thrilled to launch Film Frontier in partnership with HKIFF Industry. We hope to connect our next-generation filmmakers with international partners who can help bring their unique visions to life," said Kaori Ikeda, Managing Director of UNIJAPAN.

For this inaugural edition, two projects will be showcased at the HKIFF Industry Project Market:

*HIDARI* by Kawamura Masashi and Ogawa Iku is a stop-motion animation inspired by the legend of Hidari Jingorō, set in a wood-punk vision of Edo-period Japan. A tale of vengeance, political conspiracy, and legacy sees the sculptor battling mechanical soldiers and confronting his past.

*Unknown Face* by Kusano Natsuka (*Domains*, Rotterdam 2018) explores the relationship of a bisexual woman and her partner who develop an intimacy with a stranger until a sudden shift in their dynamics forces them to wear strange, illegible faces resembling traditional Noh masks.

## NEW AWARDS

All shortlisted projects will compete for a range of cash and in-kind prizes across 17 categories, including development and post-production gap financing, in-kind equipment, filming, and post-production services. The total value of the 24 award winners amounts to US\$360,000.

Three sponsors will present awards at the HKIFF Industry for the first time:

Kantana Holdings will offer three in-kind awards for digital intermediate (DI) post-production (US\$25,000), sound post-production (US\$25,000), and virtual production (US\$87,500). Phenom Films will support one project with in-kind post-production services valued at US\$38,500.

In addition to post-production, sensitive skincare brand Cetaphil is collaborating this year to promote creative voices through the HAF Goes to Cannes programme, supporting selected filmmakers as they showcase their work on the international stage.

## Awards Ceremony

Date: 19 March 2026 (Thu)

Time: 16:30 – 18:00 (Hong Kong Time)

Venue: Starlight Theatre, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

## GUEST AND MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Investors, festival organisers, industry professionals, and media can now register at <https://industry.hkiff.org.hk/guest-media-registration>. Once accredited, guests can request one-on-one meetings with filmmakers through the appointment system. Media representatives will have access to all official events.

To stay updated on the latest news and details about the HKIFF Industry Project Market, please visit

<https://industry.hkiff.org.hk> (our official website)

<https://www.facebook.com/hkiffindustry> (our Facebook page)

<https://www.instagram.com/hkiffindustry> (our Instagram page)

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### About HKIFF Industry Project Market:

The HKIFF Industry Project Market serves as the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society's flagship industry platform. It aims to support filmmakers by facilitating project funding, co-production collaborations, and networking opportunities, advancing outstanding cinematic projects from development to the international stage.

Website: <https://industry.hkiff.org.hk/>

### **The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited**

The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited (HKIFFS) is a charitable, non-profit and non-governmental organisation dedicated to discovering and promoting creativity in film's art and culture. It organises the annual Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) and the Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF). Another highlight is the Cine Fan Summer International Film Festival (SummerIFF) held every August. In 2013, HKIFF introduced the repertory HKIFF Cine Fan Programme to enrich and deepen Hong Kong moviegoers' experience through a monthly programme of contemporary, retrospective, and thematic showcases. In 2021, HKIFFS restructures its film industry services and set up HKIFF Industry to promote and support non-mainstream film industry development through co-production and festival strategies and overseas distribution (HKIFF Collection).

Website: [www.hkiff.org.hk](http://www.hkiff.org.hk)

**Appendix: Full list of Projects**

\* First narrative feature projects

**JAKARTA FILM WEEK & JAFF MARKET SECTION**

J1. *A Life Full of Holes*, Indonesia, Taiwan

Director: Loeloe Hendra Komara

Producers: Indra Yudhitya Irawan, Loeloe Hendra Komara, Kuek Shee Heng

Production Company: Onomastika Films, Aview Images

J2. *\*PingPong*, Indonesia

Director: Najam Yardo

Producer: Hannan Cinthya

Production Company: Arungi Films

**FILM FRONTIER SECTION**

F1. *\*HIDARI*, Japan

Directors: Kawamura Masashi, Ogawa Iku

Producers: Matsumoto Noriko

Production Company: dwarf studios

F2. *Unknown Face*, Japan

Director: Kusano Natsuka

Producers: Miyoshi Gohey, Anocha Suwichakornpong, Paul Mori

Production Company: Matataki Films GK