

For Immediate Release

The Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum Unveils “Work in Progress Laboratory” Program

Hong Kong, 6 October, 2016 – The Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) has announced the creation of the “Work in Progress Laboratory”, a significant new program to help directors and producers secure post-production funds, meet distribution agents and film festival programmers.

The WIP Lab is a vital extension of the services that HAF currently provides and will hold its first event in March at HAF 2017. While the existing HAF platform is intended for film projects that are in pre-production or the development stages and are seeking additional funding, the WIP Lab is designed for projects that are in the later stages of production.

The projects presented in the WIP Lab are required to have completed or nearly completed shooting or production and are looking for post-production partners, sales agents and buyers. A maximum of 10 films will be presented.

HAF will accept WIP Lab submissions from 12 October 2016 to 31 December 2016. The WIP Lab will take place during the 15th HAF. Producers and directors will have approximately 10 minutes to present their projects, including a video clip from their films, followed by a 10-minute question-and-answer session with an audience of film industry professionals, including investors, distribution company representatives, post-production company representatives and film festival programmers. The WIP Lab will also assist interested industry professionals to set up individual meetings with the presenters to obtain more information about their projects.

“The ‘Work in Progress Laboratory’ is an important new initiative for the Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum and will provide further incentive for filmmakers,” said Roger Garcia, Executive Director of the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society, which organises the HAF. “We expect that the WIP Lab will further enhance the scope and status of HAF by attracting a greater number of quality projects.”

The “Work in Progress Laboratory” program is financially supported by Create Hong Kong and the Film Development Fund.

The 15th HAF will be held 13-15 March 2017 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, together with the 21st Hong Kong International Film and TV Market (FILMART), to be held 13-16 March 2017.

For more details on the Lab, please visit <http://www.haf.org.hk>, or contact HAF via email: haf@hkiff.org.hk.

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About The Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum

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), 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

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

The Society is committed to making world cinema accessible and affordable to the public. It organizes the annual flagship the Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) and the Hong Kong – Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) in March and April. Another annual highlight is the Summer International Film Festival (SummerIFF) held every August. The repertory HKIFF Cine Fan Programme was launched in April 2013 with the aim to enrich and deepen the experience of Hong Kong moviegoers through a monthly programme of contemporary, retrospective and thematic showcases.

Through its annual programmes, the Society promotes international appreciation of Asian, Hong Kong and Chinese film culture; introduces world cinema to Hong Kong audiences; and continues to underline Hong Kong's key position in the international film community.

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