For Immediate Release

**The Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum Announces**

**Seven Shortlisted Projects for Operation Greenlight**

**Hong Kong, 26 February 2018** - The 16th Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) today unveiled the shortlisted projects of **Operation Greenlight,** a pitch session to connect Hong Kong filmmakers with a wide range of potential co-production and funding partners across the world. Operation Greenlight will take place on 20 March 2018 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre as part of HAF.

Operation Greenlight is a collaborative initiative of Create Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Film Development Council (FDC), the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society (HKIFFS) and Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF). Seven film projects have been identified from Create Hong Kong’s First Feature Film Initiative.

The selected film projects will have the unprecedented opportunity to share their exciting plans with leading industry representatives and investors in specially tailored pitch session at HAF. To facilitate these emerging directors to perfect their pitching skills, HAF has also organized training workshops led by experienced local film professionals. Under their guidance, the new directors will develop skills to present their projects effectively to potential financiers.

FDC Secretary-General Mr. Wellington FUNG added, “Operation Greenlight offers emerging filmmakers excellent opportunities to refine their presentations and showcase their projects. we hope the experience will foster the development of their first film and benefit Hong Kong cinema.”

The shortlisted projects of Operation Greenlight include:

1. *Melanin Slayer*, to be directed by **Shadow HUNG** and produced by Jacqueline LIU, the story revolves around a killer and a Taoist monk to find their true meaning of life.
2. *Him*, to be directed by **Eric CHEUNG** and produced by the well-known directors CHAN Hing-kaiandO Sing-pui, a dark story about love and relationships when the protagonist’s plan for revenge turns out to be an adventure in self-discovery.
3. *As We Grow,* to be directed by **Jun LI** and produced by the veteran filmmakers Patricia CHENGandSylvia CHANG Ai-Chia,followsa gay teenager whose life is disrupted when his single father marries a young wife from Mainland China.
4. *Before I Met You,* to be directed by **Cyrus CHENG** and **Kenji LO**, produced by the well-known director Derek CHIU Sung-keeandthe veteran cinematographerAdam TAM, is a road movie about two abandoned men in pursuit of dreams. The journey is marked by bittersweet experiences but also laughter and warmth.
5. *Connection*, to be directed by **HO Po-wing** and produced by the well-known producer Alexander CHAN,is a unique film about love asset against a backdrop of Salsa dance. The love stories of three couples of various ages living under the same roof are depicted through the analogy of dancing.
6. *Bird of Paradise Flower (Temporary Name)* , to be directed by **CHUCK Wai-man** and produced by TIN Kai-man*,*starts from the death of a student and reveals various characters’ dark sides when confronting obstacles and frustrations.
7. *Take Two*, to be directed bythe experienced actor **Dick LIU Kai-chi** and produced by TIN Kai-man, is about the realisation of life and regrets after death.

**Operation Greenlight - Hong Kong Young Filmmakers Pitch Session**

Date: 20 March 2018 (Tuesday)

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Venue: Starlight Theatre, Hall 1, Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

Remarks: HAF or FILMART badge holders and press are welcomed to join.

**Operation Greenlight Happy Hour**

Date: 20 March 2018 (Tuesday)

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Venue: HAF Area, Hall 1, Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

Remarks: HAF or FILMART badge holders and press are welcomed to join.

For more information about Operation Greenlight: https://www.haf.org.hk/operationgreenlight

**Guest and media accreditation for HAF**

Investors, financiers and other film-industry guests are now able to register for HAF at

[https://www.haf.org.hk/guest.php](https://www.dropbox.com/referrer_cleansing_redirect?hmac=N7l20wdrXWzeYBfCrx5RlZKKLUadJGzezEwGkotZkLA%3D&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.haf.org.hk%2Fguest.php) and schedule individual meetings with filmmakers to discuss their projects. Guests will be given access to HAF, in addition to joining our official networking events, screenings, seminars or other activities.

Members of media can now register for the event until 9 March, with further details here: [http://www.hkiff.org.hk/](https://www.dropbox.com/referrer_cleansing_redirect?hmac=1Kh2lTmGL7iz0NGgU%2F6RBSKY5B8TPnlHoBvfYmw4Lak%3D&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.hkiff.org.hk%2F)

A complete list of the selected Operation Greenlight projects for the 16th HAF can be found in **Appendix**. For more information about HAF, please visit the official website at [http://www.haf.org.hk/](https://www.dropbox.com/referrer_cleansing_redirect?hmac=4QNByPBW%2B1wMWxI4DNQYJs4irXRUvHkC7nuyEo1yWrw%3D&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.haf.org.hk%2F) and the HAF Facebook page at [https://www.facebook.com/hafhkiffs/](https://www.dropbox.com/referrer_cleansing_redirect?hmac=XVsMtqsxak5RfbDcBazHICVgeu43OcC2fvB82QaO4lA%3D&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fhafhkiffs%2F).

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**About 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. 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 the added advantage of being held in conjunction with Hong Kong Filmart, Asia’s largest film market which attracts over 8,000 professionals.

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.

HKIFFS’s dedication to quality and intelligent programming, its devotion to the discovery of new areas of filmmaking in Asia and China, its exceptional work for Hong Kong cinema, seminars and acclaimed publications, gives it a unique and respected international reputation that helps promote Hong Kong cinema at home and abroad.

**Appendix**

Seven Shortlisted Projects for Operation Greenlight 2018

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| **1.** **Melanin Slayer**  | **Hong Kong**  |

Director：Shadow HUNG

Producer：Jacqueline LIU

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| **2. Him**  | **Hong Kong**  |

Director：Eric CHEUNG

Producer：CHAN Hing-kai, O Sing-pui

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| **3. As We Grow** | **Hong Kong**  |

Director：Jun LI

Producer ：Patricia CHENG, Sylvia CHANG Ai-Chia

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| **4. Before I Met You** | **Hong Kong** |

Director：Cyrus CHENG, Kenji LO

Producer：Derek CHIU Sung-kee, Adam TAM

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| **5. Connection**  | **Hong Kong**  |

Director：HO Po-wing

Producer：Alexander CHAN

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| **6. Bird of Paradise Flower (Temporary Name)** | **Hong Kong** |

Director：CHUCK Wai-man

Producer：TIN Kai-man

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| **7. Take Two** | **Hong Kong**  |

Director：Dick LIU Kai-chi

Producer：TIN Kai-man