

**HKIFFS postpones HKIFF44 and HAF18,  
cancels Cine Fan April/May edition**

**13 February 2020 (Hong Kong)** – The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society today announces the postponement of the 44<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF44) and the 18<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF18) in response to the recent novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

In making the announcement, HKIFFS Executive Director Albert LEE confirms that the Society's two flagship events, both scheduled to start in less than six weeks, will be postponed to the summer of 2020. However, the April/May edition of the year-round Cine Fan repertory programme has been cancelled.

“We hope to be able to share more information regarding a postponed HKIFF44 following discussions with screenings venues, as well as our many stakeholders, partners and sponsors,” said LEE.

HAF director Jacob WONG said plans are on track to hold HAF18 during the 24<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film and TV Market (FILMART), which the Hong Kong Trade Development Council has just postponed to 27-29 August.

“Besides, we are still going ahead with *HAF Goes to Cannes* which takes place during Cannes Film Festival in May,” said WONG. “We will announce the selected projects for this initiative in late March.”

LEE added that the postponement of HKIFF44 and HAF18 was not an easy decision to make. “We see the need to make a socially-responsible decision and not to put the public's safety and well-being at risk,” he said. “Our prayers are for those who are affected by the novel coronavirus outbreak and to wish them a full and speedy recovery.”

For latest updates of HKIFF44 and Cine Fan programmes, please visit the official websites [www.hkiff.org.hk](http://www.hkiff.org.hk) and [www.cinefan.com.hk](http://www.cinefan.com.hk). For information about HAF18, please visit the official website [www.haf.org.hk](http://www.haf.org.hk).

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### **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. It organises 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 Cine Fan Summer International Film Festival (SummerIFF) held every August. The repertory HKIFF Cine Fan Programme was launched in April 2013 to enrich and deepen the experience of Hong Kong moviegoers through a monthly programme of contemporary, retrospective and thematic showcases. Film Industry Services Office (FIS) was also set up in 2017 to promote the development of non-mainstream film industry through co-production and providing support on festival strategies and overseas distribution (HKIFF Collection).

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

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