

**For Immediate Release**

**HKIFF45 Announces Firebird Awards Jury Members**

**26 March 2021 (Hong Kong)** – The 45<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF45) today announces a glittering line-up of jury members for its four Firebird Awards competition sections, including three past winners.

Renowned for identifying and recognising new talents in young cinema, documentary, and short film, four independent jury panels will select 12 winners from 43 films for this year's Firebird Awards competition. HKIFF45 will announce the results online on 11 April, the penultimate day of the festival.

The Young Cinema Competition for Chinese language films has heightened the profiles of some of Asia's emerging talents since its introduction two years ago. Adjudicating this year's selection are **YU Lik-wai**, director, award-winning cinematographer, and a long term collaborator of JIA Zhangke; acclaimed Hong Kong art director, costume designer and film editor **William CHANG**; and **La Frances HUI**, film curator with New York's Museum of Modern Art.

Three distinguished industry professionals from three continents will make up the Young Cinema Competition for World Cinema jury panel. Joining rising Mosotho filmmaker **Lemohang Jeremiah MOSESE**, whose *This Is Not a Burial, It's a Resurrection* won last year's Firebird Award for Young World Cinema and FIPRESCI Prize, are Festival des 3 Continents artistic director **Jérôme BARON**, and veteran Hong Kong curator and film critic, **Winnie FU**.

Emmy Award-winning documentarian **Luke LORENTZEN**, whose *Midnight Family* won over 35 international awards, including the Firebird Award for Best Documentary, returns as a Documentary Competition jury member. He will join two other veterans, Singapore International Film Festival artistic director **KUO Ming-Jung**, and **Pan Chin-pang LEI**, assistant professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Macau, to identify two outstanding documentaries this year.

Tasked with selecting two notable works out of 19 contestants in the Short Film Competition are three illustrious jury members: **NISHIKAWA Tomonari**, a Japanese filmmaker and artist whose short film, *Ten Mornings Ten Evenings and One Horizon*, was a past winner of the Firebird Jury Prize; German film director and Hamburg Short Film Festival artistic director **Maike Mia HÖHNE**; and **LEUNG Ming-kai**, a Hong Kong cinematographer and filmmaker whose debut feature, *Memories to Choke On, Drinks to Wash Them Down* won Best Screenplay and Film of Merit at the 2021 Hong Kong Film Critics Society Awards.

The Firebird Awards Competition is part of HKIFF45, which is going hybrid for the first time in the festival's history, featuring in-theatre and online screenings from 1 to 12 April. For details, please visit [www.hkiff.org.hk](http://www.hkiff.org.hk).

**To download information and HKIFF45 Programme & Booking folder:**

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**Media Enquiry**

**Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF)**

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### **About The Hong Kong International Film Festival**

The Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) is one of Asia's oldest and most reputable platforms for filmmakers, film professionals and filmgoers from all over the world to launch new work and experience outstanding films. The Festival is the most significant cultural event in Hong Kong. It introduces world cinema to local audiences to enrich and deepen the understanding of Hong Kong moviegoers. Committed to discovering new talent, the Festival premieres the breadth of Chinese cinema and showcases Asian talent. Festival-goers have the opportunity to enjoy world-class films, attend seminars hosted by leading filmmakers from around the world, visit film exhibitions, participate in receptions and parties, and more. The Festival draws extensive coverage from the local and international media. It continues to grow in importance as one of the premier platforms to launch films in Asia.

### **About 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 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 (Summer IFF) held every August. Launched in 2013, the repertory HKIFF Cine Fan Programme aims to enrich and deepen Hong Kong moviegoers' experience through a monthly programme of contemporary, retrospective and thematic showcases. In 2017, HKIFFS set up the Film Industry Services Office (FIS) to promote non-mainstream film industry development through co-production and support of festival strategies and overseas distribution (HKIFF Collection).

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

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