

For Immediate Release

**HKIFF45 Kicks Off With  
*Septet: The Story of Hong Kong*  
Gala Premiere**

**1 April 2021 (Hong Kong)** – The 45<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF45) kicks off tonight with the gala premiere of ***Septet: The Story of Hong Kong***, a celebration by seven iconic filmmakers of Hong Kong and the cinema that they love.

Joining directors Sammo HUNG, Ann HUI, Patrick TAM, YUEN Wo-ping, and Johnnie TO at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre opening ceremony are HKIFF45 Ambassador Aaron KWOK and Gary MAK, the Assistant Head of Create Hong Kong. Also present are cast members Timmy HUNG, Jennifer YU, YUEN Wah, Ashley LAM, NG Wing-sze, WU Tsz-tung, Eric TSUI, Simon YAM, Mimi KUNG, CHEUNG Tat-ming, LAM Suet, and Lawrence LAU.

***Septet: The Story of Hong Kong*** covers seven periods in the city's recent history, offering a nostalgic yet aspiring omnibus through the filmmakers' unique artistic visions.

HKIFF45 features over 190 films during its 12-day extravaganza, which goes hybrid for the first time with physical in-theatre and online screenings and events, including 63 world, international and Asian premieres, and a retrospective honouring Stanley KWAN, this year's Filmmaker-in-Focus.

"We have come back stronger than ever after overcoming many setbacks and challenges last year because of COVID-19," Hong Kong International Film Festival Society chairman Wilfred WONG enthused. "And I am excited by new opportunities to connect audiences through the virtual channel on the occasion of our 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary."

Programme details and ticketing information of the hybrid HKIFF45, which takes place from 1 to 12 April, are available at [www.hkiff.org.hk](http://www.hkiff.org.hk).

**To download information:**

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**Media Enquiry**

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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 largest cultural event in Hong Kong. It introduces world cinema to local audiences with the aim to enrich and deepen the experience 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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