

For Immediate Release

HKIFF45 Showcases *Drifting* With Asian Premiere

4 April 2021 (Hong Kong) – Director Jun LI hopes his new film, *Drifting*, which made its Asian premiere at the 45th Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF45) tonight, can spotlight Hong Kong’s homeless people for more public attention.

Joining LI at a star-studded gala screening at Hong Kong Cultural Centre was the ensemble cast, including Loletta LEE, Cecilia CHOI, CHU Pak-hong, Baby BO, Will OR, and Cecilia YIP in a special appearance. Selected for the International Film Festival Rotterdam’s Big Screen Competition earlier this year, *Drifting* is the young filmmaker’s second feature following *Tracey*, his critically-acclaimed debut in 2018.

Based on a true story, *Drifting* recounts how an ex-convict, played by Francis NG, and his fellow drifters take their fight to court after the authorities had raided their makeshift homes and disposed of their belongings.

“I used to walk past the squatters in the Sham Shui Po underbridge every day on my way to school,” LI said. “I only began to understand the barrier and social injustice that they have to put up with when I met them face to face and listen to their stories.”

The film marks Loletta LEE’s return to acting after a long hiatus. “My career is deeply rooted here,” LEE said. “I hope our new generation of filmmakers can preserve and revitalise the heritage of Hong Kong cinema.”

HKIFF45 features in-theatre and online screenings from 1 April to 12 April. Details of the programme and ticketing information are available at www.hkiff.org.hk.

– The End –

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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

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