

**For Immediate Release**

## **EIGHT RESTORED WORLD CLASSICS AT HKIFF47**

**24 February 2023 (Hong Kong)** – From Lubitsch’s silent comedy to Moreau’s coming-of-age tale and long-banned films from behind the Iron Curtain, the 47<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film Festival is proud to bring eight of the finest restored world classics to the local audience.

Topping the list are arthouse masterpieces from two legendary filmmakers recently restored digitally in 4K. Bernardo Bertolucci’s ***The Conformist*** captures fascism’s psychopathology with its virtuosic flashback structure and Vittorio Storaro’s gorgeously symbolic Technicolor cinematography. In contrast, Béla Tarr’s ***Werckmeister Harmonies*** meditates on chaos and the cosmos in its ethereal black-and-white.

Despite being banned for decades, the defiant power of Czechoslovakian director Karel Kachyňa’s ***The Ear*** and Russian director Kira Muratova’s ***The Long Farewell*** never diminished. Kachyňa’s noir-thriller offers blistering criticism of the climate of paranoia perpetuated by the totalitarian regime. Meanwhile, Muratova’s majestic psychodrama of a mother-son breakup heralds artistic experimentation, fearlessly challenging the political relationship.

***The Chess Players*** is a rare gem from the great Indian filmmaker Satyajit Ray, showcasing his comic sensibilities yet remaining a powerful deprecation of the self-indulgence and detachment of India’s ruling class. Sketching a soldier’s solitary transformation into a spiritual quest for peace, Ichikawa Kon’s ***The Burmese Harp*** is one of Japan’s greatest humanist anti-war films that won an Academy Award nomination and awards at Venice.

Actress-turned-director, French screen goddess Jeanne Moreau gave an authentic portrait of feminine sensibility in ***An Adolescent Girl***, a coming-of-age story about romantic awakening. Last but not least, Ernst Lubitsch’s silent comedy ***Lady Windermere’s Fan***, screened with live piano accompaniment by local musician Bowen Li, brings sharp humour and a touch of sophistication to the Oscar Wilde

novel.

HKIFF47 will take place from 30 March to 10 April, featuring physical, in-theatre screenings and audience-engagement events alongside a bespoke online programme. HKIFF47 will unveil this year's complete programme in March.

The World Restored Classics section will feature the following eight films:

- 1925 ***Lady Windermere's Fan*** by Ernst Lubitsch
- 1956 ***The Burmese Harp*** by Ichikawa Kon
- 1970 ***The Conformist*** by Bernardo Bertolucci
- 1971 ***The Long Farewell*** by Kira Muratova
- 1977 ***The Chess Players*** by Satyajit Ray
- 1979 ***An Adolescent Girl*** by Jeanne Moreau
- 1990 ***The Ear*** by Karel Kachyňa
- 2000 ***Werckmeister Harmonies*** by Béla Tarr and Ágnes Hranitzky

**To download more information:**

<https://usercontent.hkiff.org.hk/Press/HKIFF47>

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

The Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) is one of Hong Kong's most significant cultural events annually. It is Asia's longest-running platform for filmmakers, film professionals, and filmgoers worldwide to launch new work and experience outstanding films. HKIFF introduces world cinema to local audiences to enrich and deepen the understanding of Hong Kong moviegoers. Committed to discovering new talent, HKIFF premieres the breadth of Chinese cinema and showcases Asian talent. Festival-goers can enjoy world-class films, attend seminars hosted by leading filmmakers from around the world, visit film exhibitions, participate in receptions and parties, and more. HKIFF draws extensive coverage from the local and international media and has grown in importance as one of the premier platforms for launching 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 art and culture. It organises the annual Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) and the Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF). Another highlight is the Cine Fan Summer International Film Festival (SummerIFF), held every August. In 2013, HKIFF introduced the repertory HKIFF Cine Fan Programme to enrich and deepen Hong Kong moviegoers' experience through a monthly programme of contemporary, retrospective, and thematic showcases. In 2021, HKIFFS restructured its film industry services and set up HKIFF Industry to promote and support non-mainstream film industry development through co-production, festival strategies, and overseas distribution (HKIFF Collection).

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

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