

For Immediate Release

HKIFF47 OPENS WITH MAD FATE AND ELEGIES, CLOSES WITH VITAL SIGN

10 March 2023 (Hong Kong) – The 47th Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF47) has unveiled three prominent Hong Kong films, including two world premieres, to bookend this year's 12-day event.

The Asian premiere of Filmmaker-in-Focus Soi Cheang's noir thriller, *Mad Fate*, starring Gordon Lam and Lokman Yeung, and the world premiere of *Elegies*, Ann Hui's lyrical documentary portrayal of the topography of contemporary local poetry, will open HKIFF47 at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre on 30 March. The world premiere of *Vital Sign*, an affecting drama directed by Cheuk Wan-chi and starring Louis Koo, Yau Hawksau, and Angela Yuen, will close the festival on 10 April.

HKIFF47 announced its complete programme of more than 320 in-theatre and online screenings and audience engagement events at a star-studded media event held at Hyatt Regency Hong Kong today.

Returning to its traditional March and April dates after last year's postponement, the hybrid HKIFF47 will showcase no fewer than nine world premieres, six international premieres, and an astounding 67 Asian premieres among some 200 films curated from 64 countries and regions worldwide.

Among those filmmakers and celebrities in attendance at the media event were Soi Cheang and his *Mad Fate* producer Elaine Chu and producer cum screenwriter Yau Naihoi; Ann Hui and her *Elegies* producer Ken Hui and composer Olivier Cong; *Vital Sign* director Cheuk Wan-chi; as well as the cast of the three films including Lokman Yeung, Ng Wing-sze, Berg Ng, Peter Chan Charm-man, Birdy Wong Ching-yan, Yau Hawk-sau, Angela Yuen, and Poon Chan-leung.

Also joining HKIFF's young ambassador Jennifer Yu are local documentarians Tsang Tsuishan, Dora Choi, and Haider Kikabhoy, whose latest films, *Winter Chants* and *To Be*

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Continued, will gala premiere at the festival.

HKIFF47's highlights include award-winners from major international film festivals and the latest from master filmmakers such as Werner Herzog, Cristian Mungiu, Frederick Wiseman, and Hong Sang-soo.

Largely absent from Hong Kong since 2019, overseas filmmakers will return to meet the local audiences in person. They include maestro Tsai Ming-Liang, who will bring his latest feature *Where*, and hold a masterclass with Lee Kang-Sheng following the screenings of his short *Where Do You Stand, Tsai Ming-Liang?*. Filmmaker-in-Focus Soi Cheang will attend a Face to Face session to share his insights on life and cinema with the public at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre's Grand Theatre on 8 April.

As part of an ongoing initiative to make cinema accessible and affordable to the public, HKIFF47 will offer a special discounted fare of \$28 to students, the elderly, people with disabilities and CSSA recipients, and free community screenings.

The complete programme and screening schedule are now available through HKIFF's official website (www.hkiff.org.hk). The public can purchase tickets through URBTIX from 10 am on Tuesday, 14 March.

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 worldwide, 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

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