

**For Immediate Release**

## **HKIFF47 KICKS OFF WITH MAD FATE AND ELEGIES PREMIERES**

**30 March 2023 (Hong Kong)** – The 47<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF47) opens tonight with two sold-out galas at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, the Asian premiere of Soi Cheang's *Mad Fate* and the world premiere of Ann Hui's *Elegies*.

The Acting Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Mr Raistlin Lau, officiated the open ceremony of the annual cinematic extravaganza in the presence of HKIFF47 festival ambassador Aaron Kwok and a host of distinguished guests.

In his opening remarks, Mr Lau noted the public had responded enthusiastically to the first HKIFF following the removal of all pandemic-related restrictions, snapping up more than half of all tickets within hours when they went on sale earlier this month.

Sharing the stage with director Cheang at the opening ceremony was the star-studded cast and crew of *Mad Fate*, including Elaine Chu and Yau Nai-hoi, Lee Chun-fai, Gordon Lam, Lokman Yeung, Ng Wing-sze, Berg Ng, Peter Chan, Wong Man-wai, Birdy Wong, and Pancy Chan. Meanwhile, director Hui was accompanied by two poets from her documentary *Elegies*, Huang Canran and Liu Wai-tong, in meeting and greeting the packed audience.

The 12-day HKIFF47, which takes place until 10 April in multiple venues across Hong Kong, features 197 films from 64 countries and regions, including 82 world, international, and Asian premieres. It also marks the return of overseas filmmakers such as Tsai Ming-Liang and Lee Kang-sheng, largely absent from the festival since 2019, to reconnect with the local audience.

The complete HKIFF47 programme and screening schedule are now available through HKIFF's official website ([www.hkiff.org.hk](http://www.hkiff.org.hk)). The public can purchase tickets through URBTIX.

**To download more information:**

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

**Media Enquiry**

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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](http://www.hkiff.org.hk)

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