



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**26TH SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
OPENS WITH ASIAN FLAIR**



L-R: Producer Hsieh Chun-yao; Directors Cheng Yu-chieh and Lekal Sumi; the cast of Panay – Kaco Lekal, Rahic Gulas, Dongi Kacaw, Ado' Kaliting Pacidal, Bokeh Kosang; and Panay's singer/composer Suming, at the Gala Opening of the 26th Singapore International Film Festival.

Singapore, 26 November 2015 – Casting a prominent spotlight on Asian talent, the 26th Singapore International Film Festival rolled out the red carpet for its Gala Opening tonight. Taiwanese actress and model Sonia Sui Tang, and Singapore's Golden Horse-winning actress Yeo Yann Yann, were among the special guests who graced the Festival's Gala Opening at Marina Bay Sands, setting a stunning stage for Asian independent cinema over the next 10 days.



Sui and Yeo, together with Taiwanese director Lee Chung, are in Singapore for the Festival's Special Presentation of *The Laundryman*. Lee's feature-length debut revolves around a hitman haunted by the ghosts of his victims, and also stars Joseph Chang Hsiao-Chuan and Wan Qian.

Inter-ethnic director-duo, Cheng Yu-Chieh and Lekal Sumi, took to the red carpet with the cast of the Festival's Opening Film *Panay*. They include Ado Kalitaing Pacidal, Bokeh Kosang, and Kaco Lekal. This was also the first trip out of Taiwan for the film's two young aboriginal actors, Dongi Kacan and Rahic Gulas. The film's soundtrack was recently awarded Best Original Film Song at the 52nd Golden Horse Awards – it was performed at the film's after-party by singer, Suming.

A splash of colour and fun were also brought onto the red carpet by five members of *Bugis Street Redux*'s original ensemble, who made a special appearance tonight ahead of the film's 20th anniversary screening and cast reunion. Hiep Thi Le, Matthew Foo, Ernest Seah, and Maria J will be joined by Director Yonfan for the screening on 28 November.

SGIFF Executive Director, Yuni Hadi, said, "Southeast Asia is rich with an eclectic mix of film talents and auteurs, each with their own unique expressions and styles. With over 150 specially selected films and programmes, SGIFF is a choice platform for the facilitating and expanding the conversation and interest on filmmaking, and it is always exciting to discover these independent voices and connect them with the wider international audience."

"At the same time, we want to get even more personal with our audiences and take them beyond the silver screens to encounter the stories behind the stories. Over the next ten days, we look forward to delivering an immersive cinematic experience that will



excite, invigorate, and inspire new generations of film-goers and lovers, growing the film community in Singapore and the region.”

Running from 26 November to 6 December 2015, the 26th edition of SGIFF will take place across various venues, including Marina Bay Sands, which returns this year as Presenting Sponsor. The other screening venues are National Museum of Singapore, Shaw Theatres Lido, National Gallery Singapore, The Arts House, The Projector and The Substation.

The SGIFF is an event of the Singapore Media Festival, hosted by Media Development Authority (Singapore). SGIFF's Official Sponsors include Presenting Sponsor, Marina Bay Sands; Official Festival Time Partner, IWC Schaffhausen; Official TV, Fox International; Official Airline, Singapore Airlines; Official Technology Partner, Mocha Chai Laboratories and Official Art Magazine, Art Republik.

-end-

About the Singapore International Film Festival

The Singapore International Film Festival (SGIFF) is the largest and longest-running film event in Singapore. Founded in 1987, the festival has become an iconic event in the Singapore arts calendar that is widely attended by international film critics, and recognised worldwide for its focus on Asian filmmakers and the promotion of Southeast Asian films. The SGIFF is committed to nurturing and championing local and regional talents in the art of filmmaking. The festival serves as a catalyst in igniting public interest in the arts, and encouraging artistic dialogue and cultural exchanges. The SGIFF is



organised by the Singapore International Film Festival Ltd, a non-profit organisation and holds the Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status.

For more information, please visit www.sgiff.com.

facebook.com/sqinternationalfilmfestival | instagram.com/sqiffest/ | [@SGIFFest](https://twitter.com/SGIFFest) |
#SGIFF2015 | #morethanjustfilm

For media queries, please contact:

Sarah-Marie Teo
Tate Anzur
DID: 6221 2681
Email: sarah-marie.teo@tateanzur.com

Cherell Soon
Tate Anzur
DID: 6221 3808
Email: cherell.soon@tateanzur.com