



PRESS RELEASE

Singapore International Film Festival To Hold Its First Ever Southeast Asian Film Lab

15 July 2014, SINGAPORE – The Singapore International Film Festival (SGIFF) will hold its first ever Southeast Asian Film Lab as part of its 25th anniversary celebration this year.

The Southeast Asian Film Lab is a seven-day writing workshop aimed at emerging screenwriters and/or writer/directors from Southeast Asia aged between 18 and 35, with a focus on stories capturing the collective experiences of the past, present and future Southeast Asia, to be developed into feature length screenplays.

Mentors for the film lab include Akanga Films' award-winning producer Fran Borgia, and independent filmmaker and co-founder of Da Huang Pictures Tan Chui Mui. It will be held from 8 to 14 December 2014.

Executive Director of SGIFF Yuni Hadi said: "Our thinking behind the Southeast Asian Film Lab is to unearth potential stories from the region, and explore the richness of Southeast Asian culture through the medium of film. Film is one of the fastest and most powerful ways of reaching the wider community. Through this creative collaboration between neighboring countries, we will build up mutual appreciation and respect for our heritage amongst the participants in Singapore and the region."

Ten participants will be selected to attend a series of master-classes and screenings with established practitioners from the region on possible writing approaches. They will also receive individual advice from mentors, and eventually conduct a story pitch in front of an industry panel.

Hadi added that the Southeast Asian Film Lab underscores the festival's ambition to build and nurture the film industries in Singapore, as well as the wider Southeast Asian region.

To be eligible, screenwriters and/or writers/directors must be of Southeast Asian descent, aged between 18 to 35 years old; have at least two short films screened in international film festivals; and must not have made a feature length film before.



A feature length screenplay is defined as a work of fiction or non-fiction that serves as the blueprint for a film that equals or exceeds 60 minutes in length including end credits. Source material for inspiration can be but are not limited to: landscapes, architecture, folk tales, novels, short stories, theatre, music, poetry, painting, and historical events from Southeast Asia.

All entries must be submitted together with the completed submission form by 15 September 2014. SGIFF will announce the successful applicants by mid-October 2014. For more information, please visit <http://www.sgiff.com/sea-film-lab/>.

Separately, the festival has also launched a 60-second call for entry trailer, which can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/user/sgiffest>. Since commencing its call for film submissions in March, SGIFF has received positive response and are looking forward to receiving more entries from the rich pool of talent in the region. Participants have two more months to submit their entries through the festival website (www.sgiff.com/submissions) before it closes on 15 September 2014.

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About the Singapore International Film Festival (4 to 14 December 2014)

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 recognized worldwide for its focus on Asian filmmakers and the promotion of Southeast Asian films. The SGIFF is committed to nurture and champion Singaporean talents in the art of filmmaking and brings to the city, the highest standard for the enrichment of cultural life in Singapore. The festival serves as a catalyst — igniting public interest in the arts and encouraging artistic dialogue and cultural exchange. The SGIFF is organized by the Singapore International Film Festival Ltd, a non-profit organization and holds the Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status. For more information, please visit www.sgiff.com.



Silver Screen Awards

The Silver Screen Awards Competition was introduced in 1991 to encourage advances in Asian film making standards. Every year, a select group of Asian feature films take part in the competition. Southeast Asian and Singapore short films also take part in a subcategory where a best film and best director are awarded. Films are selected by the festival for the Official Competition.

2014 Silver Screen Award Categories

Asian Feature Film Category

- Best Film
- Best Director
- Best Performance
- Special Jury Prize

Southeast Asian Short Film Category

- Best Singapore Short Film
- Best Southeast Asian Short Film
- Best Director
- Special Jury Prize

About the Singapore Media Festival

The Singapore Media Festival is set to become one of Asia's leading international media events, where the industry meets to discover the latest trends, talent and content in Asia for Film and TV. It brings together four complementary events - Asia TV Forum & Market (ATF) and ScreenSingapore (SS), Asian Television Awards (ATA) and Singapore International Film Festival (SGIFF), which will take place from 4-14 December 2014. The Singapore Media Festival is hosted by the Media Development Authority of Singapore, and organised by Reed Exhibitions, Contineo Media and SGIFF Ltd.

About Media Development Authority of Singapore (MDA)

The Media Development Authority of Singapore (www.mda.gov.sg) promotes the growth of globally competitive film, television, radio, publishing, music, games, animation and interactive digital media industries. It also regulates the media sector to safeguard the interests of consumers, and promotes a connected society. MDA is a statutory board under the Ministry of Communications and Information (www.mci.gov.sg).



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