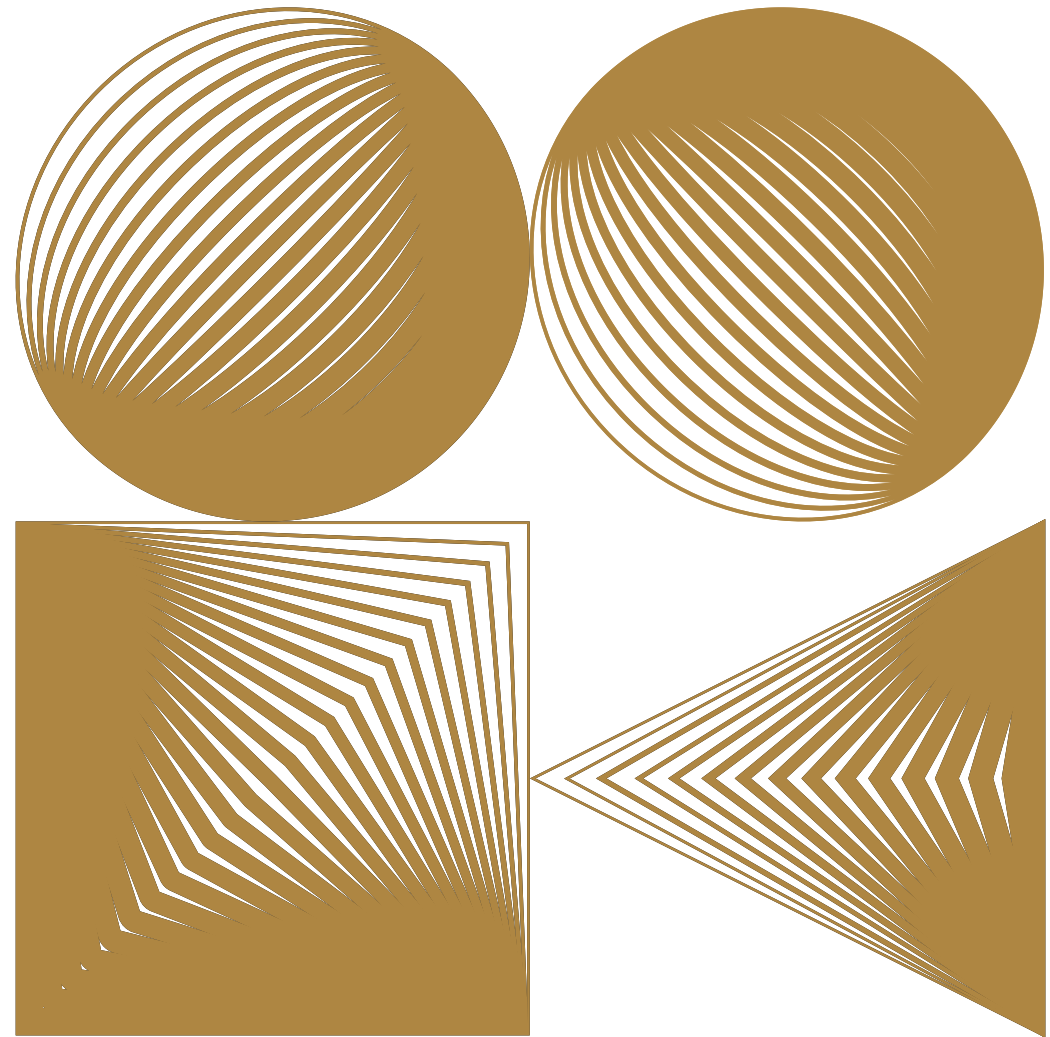


# CHANEL X BIFF ASIAN FILM ACADEMY 2025

**BAFA** CHANEL X BIFF  
ASIAN FILM ACADEMY



**BAFA** CHANEL X BIFF  
ASIAN FILM ACADEMY




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파리 퐁피두 센터와 새로운 미래를 그려갑니다.

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## CHANEL X BIFF ASIAN FILM ACADEMY BUSAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

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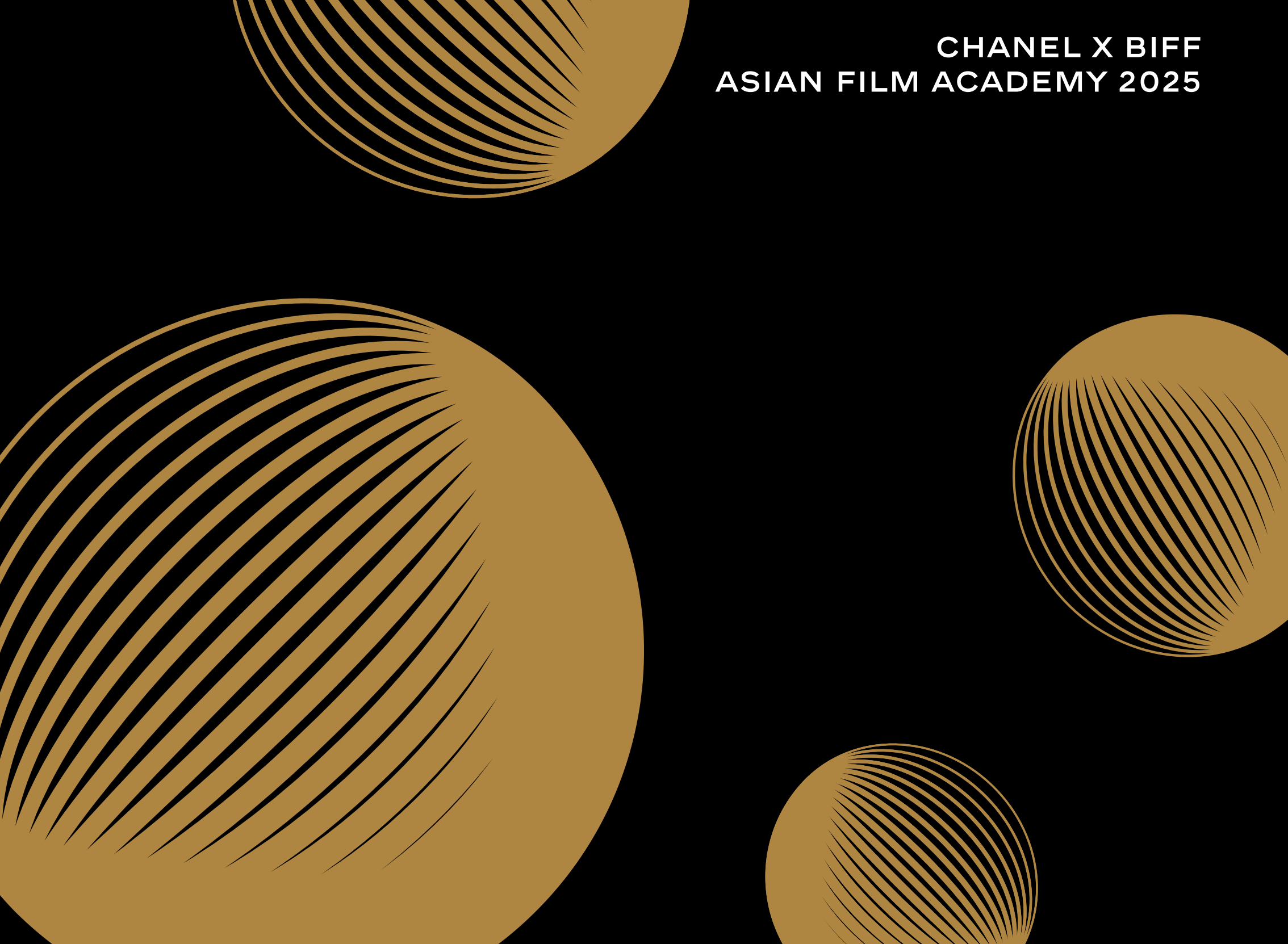
# CONTENTS

## CHANEL X BIFF ASIAN FILM ACADEMY 2025

CHANEL X BIFF ASIAN FILM ACADEMY	08
DEAN'S LETTER	10
FACULTY	14
INSTRUCTORS	18
FELLOWS	24
PROGRAMS	37
AWARDS	46
TIMETABLE	48
DAILY SCHEDULE	52
GRADUATION CEREMONY & SHORT FILM SCREENING	56
HISTORY OF AFA / BAFA	58
ALUMNI AT 30 <sup>TH</sup> BIFF	86
STAFF	91



CHANEL X BIFF  
ASIAN FILM ACADEMY 2025



# CHANEL X BIFF ASIAN FILM ACADEMY

Asian Film Academy, an educational program of the Busan International Film Festival, was launched in 2005 and designed to discover the emerging generation of Asian filmmakers to catalyze diverse networks among young talents. Asian Film Academy, which has accumulated 430 alumni from 35 countries, including the fellows of last year's edition, has been well-received by participants as a global educational program to learn the practice and philosophy of filmmaking under the guidance of world-renowned directors and instructors. Its alumni have been recognized for their excellence in the film industry around the world and at the world's prestigious film festivals.

With the support of Chanel, CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy has a solid foundation and the driving force for educating young, promising Asian talents

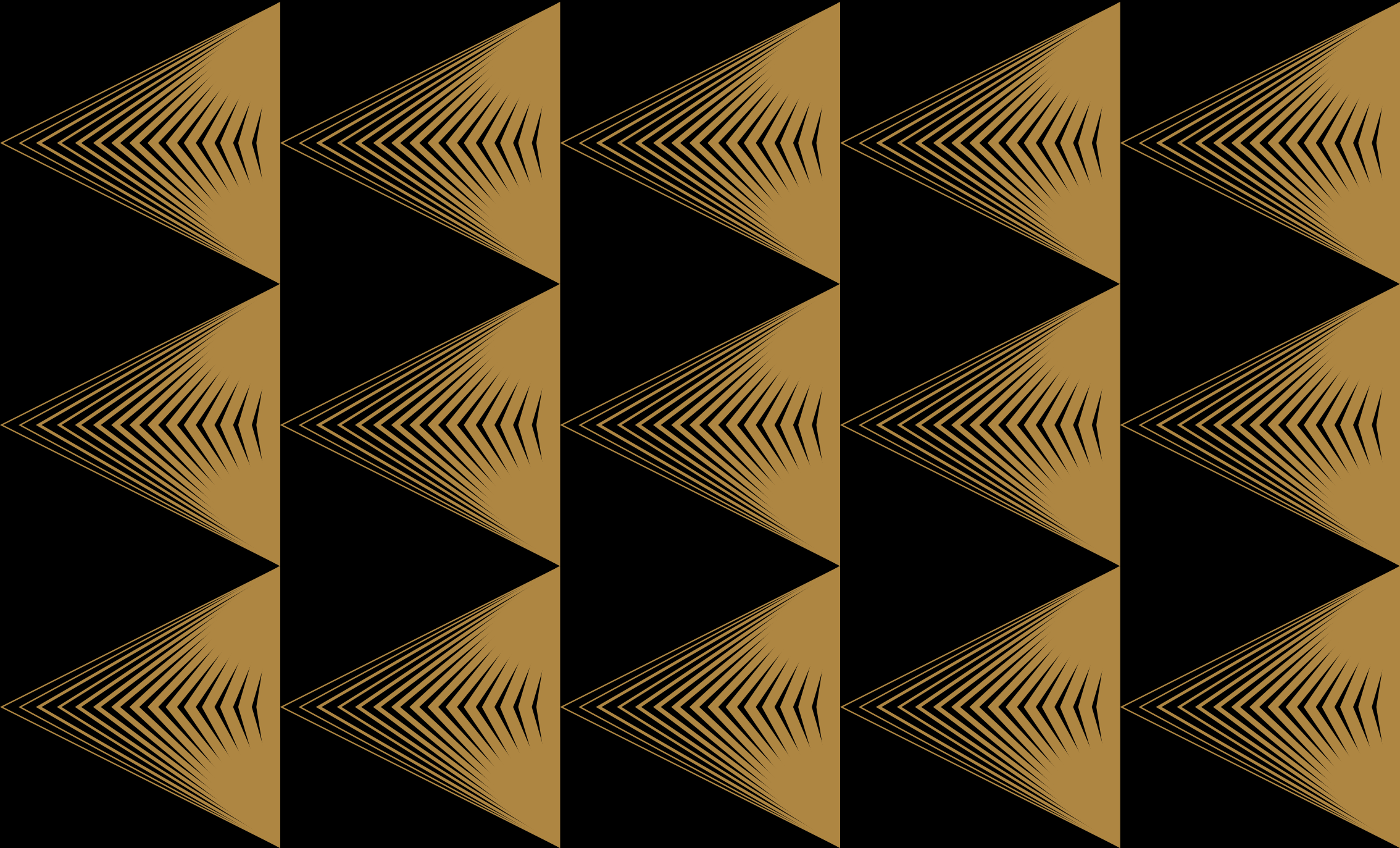
in a broader and more innovative way. It plans to actively support fellows to explore various careers and continue networking even after graduating from the academy. CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy seeks to be the most enterprising and essential film education program in Asia.

**CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy 2025** marked a historic milestone with applications pouring in from a record-breaking 40 countries, creating the most internationally diverse applicant pool in history. The number of overall applicants has continued to rise in recent years. Notably, the academy has witnessed a significant rise in applications and selections from female filmmakers.

BAFA 2024



# DEAN'S LETTER





# DEAN'S LETTER



"What we need to deal with in film is not the events themselves, but the wounds they leave. It should be a determined scar, not one that causes despair and falls.

We create images with light and sound, allowing them to reach our senses before our thoughts, shaping gazes with language, and making silence sound like a scream.

As dreams must pass through nightmares to reach us, we capture and arrange meaningful moments of life in the abyss of chaos and anxiety.

Creation is not something new. It is a sense detecting the cracks and right and wrong of the world. In this way, your films will reveal who you are, even without you saying it."

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jeewoon Kim'.

**KIM Jeewoon**

# FACULTY



Dean

**KIM Jeewoon**

Director / Korea

Kim Jeewoon made his directorial debut with *The Quiet Family* (1998), which was invited to three major international fantastic film festivals, and won the Grand Prize at the Fantasporto - Oporto International Film Festival 1999. He broadened his range by exploring various genres through films such as *The Foul King* (2000) and *A Tale of Two Sisters* (2003). The latter gained international recognition, notably receiving the top prize at the Gerardmer International Fantastic Film Festival and several other festivals.

His critically acclaimed works *A Bittersweet Life* (2005) and *The Good, the Bad, the Weird* (2008) were invited to major international festivals such as the Busan International Film Festival, the Cannes Film Festival, and the Toronto International Film Festival. Notably, *The Good, the Bad, the Weird* (2008) earned him Best Director awards, including the Sitges Film Festival and the Blue Dragon Film Awards.

*I Saw the Devil* (2010) received further accolades at prestigious international festivals. *The Age of Shadows* (2016) won both Best Director and Best Film at major domestic award ceremonies. In 2013, he became the first Korean filmmaker to direct a Hollywood feature film with *The Last Stand* (2013).

Most recently, his 10th feature film, *Cobweb* (2023), was officially invited to the Out of Competition section at the Cannes Film Festival, and earned him multiple Best Director awards in Korea. He is currently working on his second U.S. feature film, *The Hole*.





Directing Mentor  
**Mattie DO**

Director / USA, Laos

Mattie Do was born and raised in Los Angeles by Lao and Vietnamese refugees of the American War in Vietnam, but returned permanently to Laos a decade ago.

Her debut film, *Chanthaly* (2013), was the first Lao film screened internationally outside of Southeast Asia. Following its success, she was selected for talent development programs at major international film festivals, including Berlinale Talents and Cannes' La Fabrique Cinema. Her second feature film, *Dearest Sister* (2016), became the first Lao submission in the Best Foreign Language Film category at the Academy Awards 2018. Her third feature film, *The Long Walk* (2019), was invited to the Venice International Film Festival 2019 and the Busan International Film Festival 2019. It earned her the Best Director award at the Sitges Film Festival 2019 for Noves Visions.

Mattie played a pivotal role in developing Laos's film industry, helping the government build infrastructure for international co-productions and producing the country's first collaborations with the United States, Japan, and Europe. She is the first and currently the only female feature filmmaker from Laos.



Cinematography Mentor  
**PARK Junghun**

Cinematographer / Korea

Park Junghun began his career in cinematography as part of the camera crew for *ChiHwaSeon* (2002), directed by Im Kwon-taek. He continued to work steadily on auteur-driven films such as *Grape Candy* (2012) and *Snow Paths* (2015).

His first commercial feature as a cinematographer, *The Villainess* (2017), was officially invited to the non-competition section of the Cannes Film Festival 2017. For this film, he received critical acclaim, winning Best Cinematography at both the Buil Film Awards and the Grand Bell Award in Korea. Since then, he has expanded his distinctive cinematic vision through diverse works including *Herstory* (2017), *Door Lock* (2018), *A French Woman* (2019), and *Voice of Silence* (2019).

In recognition of his expertise, he served as a jury member for the CGK Award at the Busan International Film Festival in 2020 and 2024.

More recently, he has been actively working on both feature films, such as *Where Would You Like to Go* (2022), *Victory* (2024), and *Dirty Money* (2024), as well as various OTT series.

# INSTRUCTORS



Script Doctor  
**LEE Wonsuk**

2005 ~ 2010 Professor at Department of Film and Video,  
Hongik University

2021 Chairperson at Incheon Film Commission

2025 Director / *The Divorce Insurance*

2023 Director / *Killing Romance*

2014 Director / *The Royal Tailor*

2013 Director / *How to Use Guys with Secret Tips*

2004 Director / *National Gymnastics*



Editor  
**Steve M. CHOE**

Professor at Korea National University of Arts

Editor, Executive / C-47 Post Studio

2025 Editor / *Butterfly* (Amazon Prime Original series)

2024 Editor / *Dear Hongrang* (Directed by Kim Hong Sun)

2024 Editor / *Knight Flower* (Directed by Chang Tae You)

2024 Editor / *Hello and Bao* (Directed by Shim Jun)

2023 Editor / *4PM* (Directed by Jay Song)

2023 Editor / *Vigilante* (Directed by Choi Jeong-Yeol)

2023 Editor / *A Time Called You* (Directed by Kim Jin-won)

2023 Editor / *Revenant* (Directed by Lee Jung-Rim)

2022 Editor / *Sound of Magic* (Directed by Kim Sungyoon)

2021 Editor / *Happiness* (Directed by Ahn Gil-ho)

2016 Editor / *Operation Chromite* (Directed by John H. Lee)

2015 Editor / *Northern Limit Line* (Directed by Kim Hak-soon)

2013 Editor / *Snowpiercer* (Directed by Bong Joon-ho)

2005 Editor / *Forbidden Quest* (Directed by Kim Dae-woo)

2004 Editor / *A Moment to Remember* (Directed by John H. Lee)

Edited over 70 feature films and 30 television series



Production Designer  
**KIM Jin-young**

- 2024 Production Designer / *Minjae of Tomorrow* (Directed by Park Yongjae)
- 2024 Production Designer / *5 Minutes of You and me* (Directed by Eom Haneul)
- 2023 Production Designer / *House of Meeting* (Directed by Cha Jeongyun)
- 2023 Production Designer / *Commission* (Directed by Shin Jaemin)
- 2022 Production Designer / *To Her* (Directed by Lee Sangchul)
- 2022 Production Designer / *Sister Yoojung* (Directed by Jung Haeil)
- 2021 Production Designer / *Inner Child* (Directed by Son Minyoung)
- 2021 Production Designer / *Daughter of Kyung-ah* (Directed by Kim Jungeun)
- 2020 Production Designer / *Thunderbird* (Directed by Lee Jaewon)
- 2019 Production Designer / *Cicada Sound* (Directed by Lee Chungryul)
- 2019 Production Designer / *Lucky Ch-sil* (Directed by Kim Chohee)
- 2019 Production Designer / *Moonlit Winter* (Directed by Im Daehyung)
- 2018 Production Designer / *Subzero Wind* (Directed by Kim Yuri)



Film Composer  
**HAN Jae-gweon**

- 2015~2018 Chief Professor / Graduate School of Film Scoring,  
Chugye University for the Arts
- 2014 Adjunct Professor / Graduate School of Digital Image & Contents,  
Dongguk University
- 2021 Film Composer / *Someone who hate Me* (Directed by Yamaguchi Shun)
- 2020 Film Composer / *An Insignificant Affair* (Directed by Ning Yuanyuan)
- 2019 Film Composer / *The Black* (Directed by Mario Lee)
- 2016 Film Composer / *New Trial* (Directed by Kim Tae-yoon)
- 2015 Film Composer / *Sunshine* (Directed by Park Jin-soon)
- 2014 Film Composer / *The Hero* (Directed by Kim Bong-han)
- 2011 Film Composer / *Bicycle Looking for a Whale*  
or *Miracle* (Directed by Kim Young-ro)
- 2009 Film Composer / *Good Morning President* (Directed by Jang Jin)



Sound Designer  
**HAN Myung-hwan**

- 2024 Sound Supervisor / *Wonderland* (Directed by Kim Tae-yong)
- 2024 Sound Supervisor / *The 8 Show* (Directed by Han Jae-rim)
- 2022 Sound Supervisor / *Big Bet* (Directed by Kang Yunsung)
- 2021 Sound Supervisor / *My Name* (Directed by Kim Jin-min)
- 2020 Sound Supervisor / *Sweet Home* (Directed by Lee Eung-bok)
- 2018 Sound Mixer / *Burning* (Directed by Lee Chang-dong)
- 2017 Sound Editor / *Keys to the Heart* (Directed by Choi Seong-hyeon)
- 2016 Sound Supervisor / *Confidential Assignment*  
(Directed by Kim Sung-hoon)
- 2016 Sound Designer / *Proof of Innocence* (Directed by Kwon Jong-kwan)
- 2015 Sound Designer / *The Himalayas* (Directed by Lee Seok-hoon)
- 2014 Sound Supervisor / *Ode to my Father* (Directed by JK Youn)
- 2013 Sound Designer / *Mr. Go* (Directed by Kim Yong-hwa)
- 2012 Sound Designer / *Masquerade* (Directed by Choo Chang-min)
- 2011 Sound Designer / *Silenced* (Directed by Hwang Dong-hyuk)
- 2010 Sound Designer / *Poetry* (Directed by Lee Chang-dong)



Sound Designer &  
Foley Artist  
**KIM Yong-kook**

- 2025 Foley Artist / *Sua's Home* (Directed by Yun Simkyoung)
- 2024 Foley Artist / *The Killers* (Directed by Lee Myungse)
- 2023 Foley Artist / *Mustache* (Directed by Imran J. Khan)
- 2023 Foley Artist / *Smoking Tigers* (Directed by Shelly Yo)
- 2022 Foley Artist / *Confidential Assignment 2 : International*  
(Directed by Lee Seokhoon)
- 2021 Foley Artist / *Sinkhole* (Directed by Kim Ji-hoon)
- 2020 Foley Artist / *Dambo* (Directed by Kang Dae Kyu)
- 2019 Foley Artist / *37 seconds* (Directed by Hikari)
- 2018 Foley Artist / *Burning* (Directed by Lee Chang-dong)
- 2017 Foley Artist / *Keys to the Heart* (Directed by Choi Seong-hyeon)
- 2016 Foley Artist / *Confidential Assignment* (Directed by Kim Seong-hun)
- 2014 Foley Artist / *Kundo: Age of the Rampant* (Directed by Yoon Jong-bin)
- 2012 Foley Artist / *The Thieves* (Directed by Choi Dong-hoon)
- 2009 Sound Designer & Foley Mixer / *Take Off* (Directed by Kim Yonghwa)
- 2004 Foley Artist / *Tae Guk Gi: Brotherhood Of War*  
(Directed by Kang Je-kyu)





Technical Supervisor  
**CHO Heedae**

Founder & CEO, Algorithm Media Lab  
Adjunct Professor of Painting, College of Art and Design, Ewha Womans University  
Instructor of Film Major, College of Arts, Kookmin University  
Instructor of Department of Film Arts, College of Humanities, Soongsil University

2023 Technical Supervisor / *FAQ* (Directed by Kim Da-min)  
2023 Technical Supervisor / *Ms. Apocalypse* (Directed by Lim Sun-ae)  
2023 Technical Supervisor / *A Man Who Heals the City* (Directed by Kim Hyunji)  
2023 Technical Supervisor / *Ransomed* (Directed by Kim Seong-hun)  
2022 Co-Production / *My Perfect Roommate* (Directed by Lee Sun-seong)  
2022 Co-Production / *DAEMUGA* (Directed by Lee Hanjong)  
2021 Technical Supervisor / *Seire* (Directed by Park Kang)  
2019 Technical Supervisor / *Innocent Witness* (Directed by Lee Han)  
2017 Technical Supervisor / *Psychokinesis* (Directed by Yeon Sang-ho)  
2016 Technical Supervisor / *The King* (Directed by Han Jae-rim)  
2016 Technical Supervisor / *Train to Busan* (Directed by Yeon Sang-ho)  
2016 Technical Supervisor / *Tunnel* (Directed by Kim Seong-hun)  
2015 Technical Supervisor / *The Chronicles of Evil* (Directed by Beak Woon-hak)  
2015 Technical Supervisor / *The Piper* (Directed by Kim Gwang-tae)



Sound Mixer &  
Foley Recordist  
**KIM Donghwan**

2025 Foley Recordist / *Our Unwritten Seoul*  
(Directed by Park Shin-Woo, Nam Gunn)  
2025 Foley Recordist / *Weak Hero Class 2* (Directed by You Su-min)  
2025 Foley Recordist / *The Trauma Code : Heroes On Call* (Directed by Lee Do-yun)  
2025 Foley Recordist / *YADANG: The Snitch* (Directed by Hwang Byeong-gug)  
2024 Foley Recordist / *One Win* (Directed by Shin Yeonshick)  
2024 Foley Recordist / *Sweet Home Season 2, 3* (Directed by Lee Eung-bok)  
2023 Foley Recordist / *LTNS* (Directed by Lim Daehyung, Jeon Gwoon)  
2023 Foley Recordist / *Love Reset* (Directed by Nam Dae-jung)  
2023 Foley Assistant / *The Round Up : No Way Out* (Directed by Lee Sang-yong)  
2022 Production Recording / *On The Zero Line*  
(Directed by Mehrdad Ghafarzadeh, Yoshimasa Jimbo)  
2021 Sound Mixing / *Director's Intention* (Directed by Kim Mingeun)  
2019 Production Recording / *Value* (Directed by John La Raw)  
2017 Sound Mixing / *Mr. Egotistic* (Directed by Kim Jaesik)  
2016 Production Recording / *Wretches* (Directed by Kim Baek-jun)  
2015 Sound Design / *Ordinary People* (Directed by Kim Byungjune)

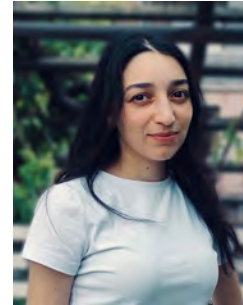
# MPA-BAFA FILM WORKSHOP



Director  
**Carlos SALDANHA**

Carlos Saldanha is a Brazilian filmmaker best known for his work on the *Ice Age* and *Rio* franchises at Blue Sky Studios, where his films collectively earned over \$2 billion globally. Saldanha has been nominated for an Academy Award twice, once for the animated short *Gone Nutty* (2004) and once for the animated feature *Ferdinand* (2017). He continues to develop projects for Brazilian and American markets through his production company, Bottlecap Productions. Some notable projects include the Netflix series *Invisible City* (2021) and the upcoming Hulu series *How to be a Carioca* (2023). Made his live-action directorial debut with Columbia Pictures' adaptation of *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, released in August 2024, and will release Disney's *100 Days*, a biopic about Brazilian explorer Amyr Klink, in late 2026.

# FELLOWS



Armenia

**Anahit BAGHINYAN**

Editing / Team A

ana98hit@gmail.com

Anahit Baghinyan is a film editor from Armenia known for her quiet precision and collaborative spirit. She holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics, but her passion for storytelling led her into the world of film, bringing an analytical mindset to the creative process. She began her career in television before transitioning into narrative and documentary films. Her recent work includes *Paid Mourners* (2025), *The Ring* (2025), and *Manyunya: Ba's Birthday* (2025). She works across both production and post-production, taking on roles such as on-set editor and data wrangler. Her experience across different stages of filmmaking enables her to adapt quickly and collaborate closely to bring a director's vision to life.



Bangladesh

**Shingkhanu MARMA**

Cinematography / Team B

shingkhanmarma@gmail.com

Shingkhanu Marma is a Bangladeshi cinematographer whose work is rooted in the landscapes and lived experiences of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Born into the Indigenous Marma community, his visual language reflects themes of displacement, identity, and cultural memory. A graduate of Digital Film & Television Production, he later specialized in Cinematography at the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute in India. His practice spans fiction, documentary, and experimental forms, often blending poetic realism with socio-political urgency. He has worked on international and regional projects such as *Father's Footsteps* (2023), *Mission Hunt Down* (2023), and *Siken* (2025). His directorial works include *A Midnight Thief* (2021) and *1000 Whooping* (2025). For him, cinema is both preservation and protest, a medium to immortalize disappearing stories and resist cultural erasure. His work continues to explore the quiet defiance and resilience of marginalized communities.



Bangladesh

**Tanveer HOSSAIN**

Producing / Team A

post2tanveer@gmail.com

Tanveer Hossain is a film producer based in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and the Executive Director of Green Screen, which he co-founded in 2013. He is a graduate of the Busan Asian Film School (AFiS) 2023, where he received the Busan Film Commission Award, and is an alumnus of APostLab in Germany, EAVE on Demand in Quezon City, the Asian Producers Network (APN) in Singapore, and more. His recent work, *ALI* (2025), received Special Mention for Short Film at the Cannes Film Festival 2025. His previous credits include *Radikals* (2024), selected for Cannes' Critics' Week; *Chokkor 302* (2024); and *The Wrestler* (2023), winner of the New Currents Award at the Busan International Film Festival. His upcoming projects include *ROID* (2025), which awaits its world premiere, and *Red Lights Blue Angels* (2026), which won the Project Market Award at the Hanoi International Film Festival. He has participated in APM of Busan International Film Festival, BIFAN NAFF, and NFDC Film Bazaar. Tanveer is also writing and developing *KAPTAN*, a graphic novel series turned animation project.



China

**Amie SONG**

Directing / Team B

amie.yisong@gmail.com

Amie Song is a Chinese filmmaker based in New York. Dividing her time between China and the U.S., she explores how people reconcile living between cultures, traditions, genders, sexualities, etc. Her passion lies in pushing the boundaries of narrative and using fiction as a space where encounters that cannot happen within the confines of reality can take place. She is an MFA candidate in Film Directing at Columbia University and a recipient of the Milos Forman Directing Fellowship. Her short film *Three* (2024) premiered at the Cannes Film Festival 2024 as part of the La Cinef official selection and has been screened at more than 40 international film festivals.



China

**Rocky HUANG**

Cinematography / Team B

rockyhuangfilm@gmail.com

Rocky Huang is a Chinese cinematographer based in Los Angeles. Born and raised in China, he has studied and worked across Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the United States and holds an MFA in Film & Television Production from the USC School of Cinematic Arts. His work, *Last Remembrances* (2024), which is a USC MFA production capstone project, has been screened at the LA Shorts International Film Festival, Norwich Film Festival, and Coronado Island Film Festival. He is dedicated to using his lens to discover the vulnerability of every human being and the truth of life through light and shadow, as his favorite quote is "Cinema is truth 24 times a second" by Jean-Luc Godard.



China

**ZHANG YanCheng**

Sound / Team A

YanChengzhang99@gmail.com

Zhang YanCheng, born and raised in China, is a supervising sound editor and re-recording mixer with over a decade of experience across both independent and commercial projects. He is passionate about using sound to give form to abstract emotions and enhance psychological storytelling. His work has been featured at major festivals including Cannes, Berlin, and the Toronto International Film Festival, with credits such as *The Water Murmurs* (2022), winner of the Short Film Palme d'Or, and *The Crossing* (2018), a nominee for the Berlinale Crystal Bear. Drawn to the physical and immersive qualities of sound, YanCheng has contributed to a wide range of major Chinese blockbusters across diverse genres and worldbuilding styles, including the action-comedy *Detective Chinatown 2* (2018), the musical *City of Rock* (2017), and the crime thriller *Back to the Wharf* (2020). An alumnus of Berlinale Talents 2024, his work spans theatrical features, television, and commercials, and is widely recognized for its craft and precision.





Hong Kong, China

**Jeff WONG**

Cinematography / Team A

jeffwongfilms@gmail.com

Jeff Wong is a Paris-based filmmaker with a focus on cross-cultural stories reflecting his background as an immigrant. At NYU, he directed *H'mong Sisters* (2012), which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. As a cinematographer, he collaborated with director Timothy Yeung on *90 Days* (2013), which won several awards including the Kodak Gold Award. Their creative partnership continued with *Finch & Midland* (2025), a feature drama about Hong Kong immigrants in Canada starring Anthony Wong. He also edited the feature documentary *They Are Siufung* (2024). Jeff is an alumnus of the Cité Internationale des Arts, residency program in Paris, the Ties That Bind Asia-Europe Co-production Workshop of EAVE, TFL Next - Screens of Tomorrow, Writers Campus of Series Mania Institute, Bridging the Dragon Sino-European Project Lab, HFPA and Film Independent Residency, TIFF Filmmaker Lab, Jackie Chan Plan A Workshop of the Beijing International Film Festival, FIRST Financing Forum, Berlinale Talents, and Talents Tokyo. He is also the recipient of Canadian Council for the Arts Grants in both 2021 and 2022.



India

**Arnab LAHA**

Cinematography / Team A

arnablaha.fr@gmail.com

Arnab Laha began his journey at St. Xavier's College with a foundation in Multimedia and Animation, further refined at the Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute. A landmark in his career was serving as the cinematographer for *The Horse from Heaven* (2022), India's official entry to the Academy Awards (Oscars) in 2023, and an official selection in the Best Live Action Short Film category. His filmography, including *Colored Sweets* (2025), *The Strange Life of Dhruvo* (2025), *The Academy of Fine Arts* (2025), *The Horse from Heaven* (2022), and *Termites* (2021), screened and awarded at the Kolkata, Bengaluru, Indian Film Festival of Melbourne, and Jaipur International Film Festivals, VGIK International Film Festival in Moscow, Golden Raven in Russia, International Film Festival of India, Goa, and Cinetecha National Museum in Mexico. Beyond cinematography, Arnab explores painting, photography, production design, and screenwriting, with a reputation for detailed, realistic portraiture. He also served as a Working Committee Member at Xavier's. Winner of Best Cinematography at the Himalayan Film Festival, Alpavirama International Youth Film Festival, Kolkata International Film Festival, and Waves International Short Film Festival, he now runs Tetris Studios, creating ad films for brands: OnePlus, BMW, Vivo, Tata Motors, Jewelbox, Aditya Birla and Merlin, etc. He is currently directing his third feature film.



India

**Harsyajit Kr GOYARY**

Sound / Team B

harsyajitgoyaryofficial94@gmail.com

Harsyajit Kr Goyary is an emerging filmmaker hailing from a quaint village in Assam, Northeast India. A post-graduate of the Film and Television Institute of India, he specialized in sound recording and sound design. In addition to his work as a sound designer and re-recording mixer, he also produces and directs regionally-based independent films. As a dedicated representative of his tribal community, Harsyajit passionately believes in the transformative power of art and culture to instigate social change and raise awareness about the rich diversity of indigenous people in Northeast India, using cinema as a medium. Some of his notable works include *Sangi-Gai* (2023), which was selected at Marché Du Film, Cannes Film Festival 2024, and Brahmaputra Valley Film Festival 2024, where he contributed as a sound designer and re-recording mixer. He also worked as a sound recordist in various films such as *Village Rockstar 2* (2024), which won the Kim Jiseok Award at the Busan International Film Festival in 2024, *Tora's Husband* (2022), officially selected for both the Toronto International Film Festival 2023 and the Busan International Film Festival 2023. Additionally, he served as a sound designer for *Mother's Affection* (2024), which won the Best Cinematographer Award at the Baripada Indigenous Short Film Festival, and *Dhekun* (2023), which had its world premiere at the Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival.



India

**Nivitha MURALIKRISHNA**

Production Design / Team B

nivitha.1307@gmail.com

With a dynamic blend of architecture and dance, Nivitha crafts immersive cinematic worlds where performance and design intertwine. Her unique approach is rooted in her multidisciplinary background that began with her working as an architect in India before transitioning into film. After completing her MA in Production Design at the National Film and Television School in the UK, she has been designing for a range of acclaimed independent films such as *PIGS* (2024) and *From the Top* (2023), which have been recognised at festivals and awards worldwide, including the Annie Awards, BFI London Film Festival, and BAFTA in LA. Alongside working on productions like *Beetlejuice Beetlejuice* (2024) and *Wake Up Dead Man* (2025), the next in the *Knives Out* series, she was honored with the Peter Lamont Spotlighting New Talent Award from the British Film Designers Guild in 2025. Nivitha brings a layered, movement-driven approach to visual storytelling, shaping the narrative through a designer's eye and a performer's instinct.



Iran

**Amir ZARGARA**

Directing / Team A

hello@zargara.com

Amir Zargara is an award-winning Iranian-Canadian writer and director, whose unique perspective is shaped by the cultural mosaic of Iran and Canada. His journey, characterized by the resilience of an immigrant and the challenges of living with a stutter, deeply influences his approach to filmmaking. An alumnus of prestigious programs from Berlinale, Toronto International Film Festival, Sundance Institute, Zurich Film Festival, and Reykjavik International Film Festival, he explores the moral complexities individuals face in his films. His short film *A Good Day Will Come* (2024) qualified for the Oscars and received over 70 awards and mentions across more than 100 film festivals worldwide. Amir's screenplays have also been praised by top industry competitions, including the Academy's Nicholl Fellowship, The Black List, Austin Film Festival, and Slamdance.



Kazakhstan

**Anastassiya PONOMARYOVA**

Production Design / Team A

anastasiya.ponomareva95@gmail.com

Anastassiya Ponomaryova is a Central Asian production designer who completed a Bachelor of Arts in Kazakhstan and her Master of Arts in Germany. With experience working on film sets in both countries, she connects Asian and European cultures through her art direction. In 2023 and 2024, she relocated to Berlin to work on the psychological drama short film *The Fridge*, directed by Jari Hegewald. Anastassiya's ability to capture emotional connections through colour, rhythm, and atmospheric details enriches the depth of her films. She creates set designs for globally resonant films that represent Asian culture and bring its untold stories to major international festivals. The short film *Water* (2018) by Aizhan Kassymbek, for which Anastassiya served as set and costume designer, won the Best Costume Design for a short film award at the Monaco International Film Festival 2018. Later, she worked as a production designer on *Air* (2018), also directed by Kassymbek, which had its world premiere at the Busan International Film Festival 2018 the same year. Anastassiya's works raise awareness of issues defining her region and spark conversations that might not otherwise take place.



Korea

**BAEK Jaeryung**

Cinematography / Team B

jaeryungbaek@gmail.com

Baek Jaeryung is a cinematographer based in South Korea. Her first encounter with filmmaking began at Southeast Missouri State University in the U.S., where she fell in love with cinema as a language of images. This led her to major in Cinematography at the Korean Academy of Film Arts (KAFA) in 2021. She currently works on narrative films, documentaries, commercials, and various visual content as a camera operator and director of photography. Her short film *Blue Box* (2023) won Best Cinematography at the International Kolkata Short Film Festival. *Canine* (2022) was selected for the Wide Angle section at the Busan International Film Festival 2022, and *Missing* (2020) received the award for best cinematography at the Truman State University Film Festival. She recently shot a feature film as director of photography. Jaeryung believes cinematography is about sensing the invisible threads that connect people, places, and time.



Korea

**SHIM Ian**

Directing / Team A

ianshim525@naver.com

Shim Ian is a film director and writer based in South Korea. She explores stories rooted in magical realism, with a focus on intimate relationships and emotional memory. She began her filmmaking journey in high school with *Muskan of Nepal: Meets the Himalayas* (2017), a short documentary about her trip to the Annapurna. Her latest short film, *Have I Told You Lately* (2024), received the Best Film Award at the Women's Film Festival in Gwangju and audience awards at various other festivals. Following the film's screening at the Jogja-NETPAC Asian Film Festival, she became interested in cross-cultural collaboration in filmmaking. Ian spent six years living in Indonesia, which deeply informed her personal and artistic worldview. Her first feature documentary, *Java Coffee Diary*, set between Indonesia and South Korea, tells a story she hopes will resonate with mothers and daughters across cultures.



**Kyrgyzstan**

**Aisha SULTANBEKOVA**

Directing / Team B

aishasultanbekova@gmail.com

Aisha Sultanbekova is a director and screenwriter from Kyrgyzstan. In 2023, she earned her MFA in Film and Media Production from the University of Texas at Austin through the prestigious US Fulbright Program. Her short documentary *Golden Moon* (2023) premiered on PBS and had its world premiere at Aspen Shortfest in the United States. She first gained her recognition with her earlier documentary *Ad Astra* (2018), which was selected for several renowned film festivals, including the San Francisco International Film Festival 2019, the Torello Mountain Film Festival 2019 in Spain, and the Olympia International Film Festival 2019 in Greece, among others. Aisha is currently developing her debut feature film, *Jaysan*, which has received support from several international programs. The project was selected for Biennale College Cinema 2023, Red Sea Labs - The Lodge 2024, the Venice Gap-Financing Market 2024, and La Fabrique Cinéma at the Cannes Film Festival 2025. Her first fiction short, *Cholpon's Gift* (2025), is currently in post-production.



**Lebanon**

**Marina TEBECHRANI**

Cinematography / Team B

marina.tebechrani@gmail.com

Marina Tebechrani is a cinematographer and a colorist working between the Middle East and Europe. She began her career in 2013 as a focus puller on feature films and commercials. She moved to Portugal in 2021 to pursue her MA in Cinematography at Kino Eyes – The European Film Masters and graduated in 2024. Marina won an award for Best Cinematography at Fest Aruanda 2024 in Brazil with her short film, *A Mother Goes to the Beach* (2024). Her works, including *The Disappearance of Goya* (2017), *Odorless Blue Flowers Awake Prematurely* (2021), and *5 Mins with Clementina* (2024), have been screened at the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, FIDMarseille, and the Museum of Moving Image in New York. Marina is a member of the Armenian Cinematographers Guild (ACG).



**Myanmar**

**Myo Aung**

Directing / Team B

myoaung0719@gmail.com

Myo Aung is a Myanmar-born filmmaker based in Taiwan, whose work explores themes of homeland and the Burmese diaspora through both fiction and documentary storytelling. His films are known for a poetic visual style that weaves realism with lyrical imagery. His short film *Rooster* (2022) was selected for the Berlin International Film Festival, and *Play* (2024) was screened at Visions du Réel and the Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival. His documentary *Fire at Forest* (2020) received an award at the Golden Harvest Awards and was also featured at the Kaohsiung Film Festival. He holds an MFA in Filmmaking from Taipei National University of the Arts and was selected as a 2024 fellow of the Golden Horse Film Academy.



**Myanmar**

**No No Lwin**

Cinematography / Team A

cinelwin@gmail.com

No No Lwin is a 20-year-old digital storyteller and self-taught filmmaker based in Myanmar. Initially beginning her creative journey through social media, her interest in filmmaking grew into a passionate pursuit in 2024. Lwin made her cinematography debut in *The Family* (2024) during the ASEAN-ROK Film Leaders Incubator (FLY), where she also served as an assistant camera on *Runaway* (2024) and *Like a Girl* (2024). She further developed her technical and cinematic skills through the THUMA AMYIN Cinematography Workshop 2025. Alongside filmmaking, Lwin is also a cinematic content creator across various social media platforms, where she shares stories that she believes are often taken for granted among her generation. Lwin was selected as a fellow of the CHANEL x BIFF Asian Film Academy 2025 through her participation in FLY 2024. With a deep love for cinema, Lwin sees cinematography as the art of transforming the ordinary into the extraordinary through her lens.





Nepal

**Prabhat GURUNG**

Directing / Team A

pbtgrg786@gmail.com

Prabhat Gurung is a Nepalese writer-director and cinematographer whose work is deeply rooted in his indigenous Gurung heritage and rural upbringing. He holds an MFA in Film from The City College of New York and a BA in Communication and Media Studies from Caldwell University. His directorial fiction short film, *The Monk and The Rebel* (2022), received the National Board of Review Student Award 2022 in the U.S. and also won the Special Jury Mention at the Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival 2024. Most recently, *Breaking the Silence* (2024), a public service announcement for which he worked as the cinematographer, won an Emmy Award for Best Public Service Announcement 2024. He is currently working on his next fiction project as a writer/director titled *Son of a Honey Hunter*, which was selected in Produire Au Sud- Film Lab South Asia 2023.



Pakistan

**Areeba Naveed**

Directing / Team B

areeba.naveed.c@gmail.com

Areeba Naveed is a Pakistani filmmaker based in Ireland whose work explores the emotional and psychological struggles of women and marginalized groups within complex sociopolitical landscapes. A Distinction graduate of the National College of Arts, Lahore, she gained early recognition with her thesis film *Until The Quiet Comes* (2020). Under a fellowship from the Norwegian Embassy, she wrote and directed *A Coup* (2020), followed by the BBC Urdu documentary *Adhi Gawahi* (2021), and the five-part crime thriller series *Khoj* (2023). In 2022, she received a grant from the Scottish Documentary Institute for her short documentary *My Body, Your Choice?* (2022). Areeba recently completed a Master's in Film Direction through the Kino Eyes program, during which she directed three short films in Portugal, Estonia, and Ireland. Her work has been screened at international festivals including IFFSA Toronto, Seoul International Pride Film Festival, Queer International Film Festival, Aesthetica Short Film Festival, Mosaic International South Asian Film Festival, FEST, North Edinburgh Film Festival, and Samizdat Eastern European Film Festival.



Philippines

**Bridget Rabo NG-TING**

Producing / Team B

bridgetngting@gmail.com

Bridget Rabo Ng-Ting is a Chinese-Filipino filmmaker and homeschooling mother based in Manila. Her work offers a personal lens shaped by her experiences as a woman and mother navigating the layers of culture, heritage, and community. She celebrates both tradition and change, aiming to inspire women to embrace motherhood and creativity while telling honest, culturally rooted stories. A graduate of Communication Arts, with a major in Film and Video, she began her career as a writer before stepping away to raise a family. In 2019, she returned to filmmaking as a producer on the award-winning *John Denver Trending* (2019), followed by *The Gospel of the Beast* (2023), which was selected for the Tokyo International Film Festival 2023. That same year, she made her directorial debut with *One Day, Three Autumns* (2023), a quiet yet powerful short film exploring the delicate balance between tradition and individuality, which went on to screen at various film festivals.



Taiwan

**Leslie Y. LIN**

Cinematography / Team A

leslielin0405@gmail.com

Leslie is a cinematographer based in Taipei, Taiwan, working across Asia and Europe on fiction, documentary, and video art projects. She graduated as a documentary director from the London Film School, bringing a poetic and emotionally grounded approach to visual storytelling. Her cinematography credits include *Poet* (2023), which won the Golden KOJIKA Award and Audience Award at the Nara International Film Festival 2024; *The Glass Essays* (2024), selected for the Opening Scenes Lab at Visions du Réel 2025; and *The Wind in Ash* (2024), supported by Short Film Project at The ONE International Women's Film Festival. In addition to her work as a DP, she has worked as a gaffer on films screened at festivals, such as Locarno Film Festival, and as a lighting technician on some BBC television series. These experiences have strengthened her technical range and collaborative fluency on set.



Thailand

**Pom BUNSERMVICHA**

Directing / Team A

pom.sirada@gmail.com

Pom Bunsermvicha (they / them) is an independent filmmaker based in Bangkok, Thailand. Their work blends documentary and fiction to critically explore gender, power structures, culture, and tradition. Pom challenges prescribed norms and systems that attempt to control and define individual and collective bodies. Their films have competed in film festivals across Southeast Asia and abroad, including Locarno Film Festival, International Film Festival Rotterdam, MoMA's Doc Fortnight, Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, Singapore International Film Festival, and SeaShorts Film Festival, and have won several awards and special mentions from Thailand, Singapore, India, Spain, Italy, Russia, and the United States. Their work has also been featured at distinguished institutions, such as Conversations at the Edge at Gene Siskel Film Center, UCLA Film and Television Archive, Barbican Centre, and Asian Film Joint. Pom is a graduate of Brown University's Department of Modern Culture and Media, and an alum of Berlinale Talents and Locarno Open Doors Lab.



Vietnam

**NGUYEN  
Le Hoang Phuc**

Editing / Team B

trieu.vh2711@gmail.com

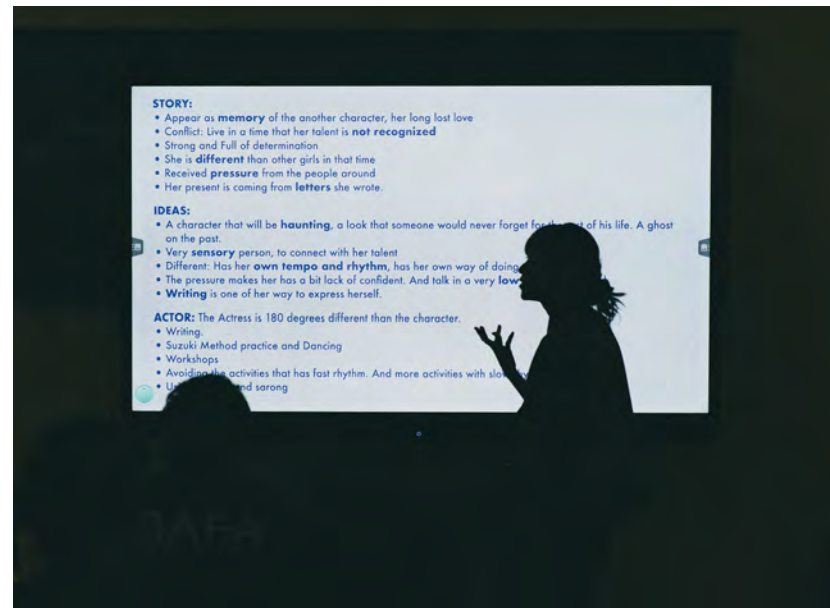
Nguyen Le Hoang Phuc is a filmmaker and editor based in Saigon, Vietnam. His work blends humor, sincerity and genre elements to craft films that are both playful and introspective. As an editor, he has worked on *Coi* (2020), *Memento Mori: Earth* (2022), and *Saigon Kiss* (2023), which have screened at the International Film Festival Rotterdam, Busan International Film Festival, and Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival. His directorial debut, *Slowly and Painfully* (2021), was selected for Dispatches from the Mekong Region: Vietnam at SeaShorts Film Festival. His recent films, *Bury Us in a Lone Desert* (2025) and *The Premiere* (2026), continue his exploration of cinematic form focused on storytelling that is both bold and approachable, with the former competing in the Tiger Short Competition at the International Film Festival Rotterdam 2025. Phuc is an alumnus of UNESCO's On the Reel Film Lab 2021.

# PROGRAMS



## Short Film Production

Fellows will make eight short films during the program. The eight scripts submitted by the fellows in the directing major will be produced and officially screened at the Busan International Film Festival 2025. Divided into two teams, the fellows in each team go through a collaborative filmmaking process from script development to post-production with the support of mentors, instructors, and professional crew.



## Lecture & Mentoring

CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy invites experts from various filmmaking fields, such as screenwriting, directing, cinematography, production design, editing, digital intermediate, sound, foley, and film scoring to hold lectures for the fellows. These exclusive lectures offer them opportunities to gain in-depth knowledge in filmmaking. Moreover, the fellows will have a private mentoring session with established filmmakers. During the session, the fellows will discuss their current projects and learn the cinematic vision and philosophy of filmmaking from the mentors.





## Hands-on Training

CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy offers cinematography fellows exclusive hands-on training sessions before shooting. They receive guidance from experts, including the cinematography mentor. This practical experience will help the fellows enhance their skills to shoot scenes of higher quality.



## Faculty Film Screening

During the sessions, the fellows will appreciate and discuss the films made by the mentors. It is a great opportunity for the fellows to discover the insightful perspective of Asian cinema leading faculty members.



## MPA-BAFA Film Workshop: Bridge to Hollywood

Collaborating with Motion Picture Association (MPA), it is a pitching workshop, 'Bridge to Hollywood'. The workshop comprises a Special Lecture, Pitch Competition, and Mentoring by a Hollywood producer. Through the workshop, the fellows learn practical pitching skills. Moreover, two fellows who are selected as winners of the Pitch Competition have opportunities to participate in film events in the US and Australia, respectively.

\* The MPA is an organization established to aspire to the art of filmmaking and to promote the film industry, and represent the interests of the six major producers and distributors of the US film industry. Their priority business is to safeguard intellectual property rights and to promote global expansion of the film industry and international exchange. Headquartered in the US, they have worldwide operations in the Asia Pacific and Europe.



## CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy Network

CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy Network event allows the current fellows to meet with the academy alumni participating in the Busan International Film Festival 2025. This opportunity will help forge new relationships to build on the established network of the academy alumni and will become a stepping stone for this year's fellows to collaborate on various projects in the future.





## Graduation Ceremony & Short Film Screening

Finalizing the 20 days of the program, the eight short films of the fellows will be screened at the Graduation Ceremony. The eight completed films will present the fellows' passion for and the hard work put into the making of these short films with the support of renowned filmmaking masters and competent experts. Various awards, including the CHANEL X BAFA Promising Filmmaker Award, are to be presented to the fellows. It will be a time to confirm the potential for building networks of Asian filmmakers and to enjoy the fruits of collaboration, transcending language barriers and cultural differences.



# AWARDS

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## CHANEL X BAFA Promising Filmmaker Award

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This award is designed to encourage promising filmmakers provided by the CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy. Each year, the Academy faculty members will select two fellows participating in the program who have demonstrated remarkable promise. Each recipient will be granted an award of USD 5,000.

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## MPA Award

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CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy collaborates with Motion Picture Association (MPA) to have a pitching workshop, 'Bridge to Hollywood.' Following the pitch competition at the workshop, the two fellows have an opportunity to visit industry events in the United States and Australia, respectively. The First Prize winner will attend a 5-day Film Immersion Program in Los Angeles, USA. The President's Special Recognition Award winner will be invited to Brisbane, Australia, to attend the Asian Pacific Screen Awards (APSA).

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TIMETABLE

[BIFF] BUSAN International Film Festival  
[MPA] Motion Picture Association

\*The schedule is subject to change.

DATE TIME	9.6 SAT	9.7 SUN	9.8 MON	9.9 TUE	9.10 WED	DATE TIME	9.11 THU	9.12 FRI	9.13 SAT	9.14 SUN	9.15 - 9.18 MON - THU		
Workshop Schedule	Arrival / Check-in	Lecture / Clinic				Workshop Schedule	Lecture / Clinic / Hands-on / Mentoring				Shooting		
Production Schedule		Pre-Production				Production Schedule	Pre-Production						
		Location Scouting		Production Meeting			Storyboard		Rehearsal				
09:00		Location Scouting	Location Scouting			09:00					Shooting Day 1~4		
10:00				Editing Lecture	Production Design Lecture	10:00	DI Lecture	Cinematography Lecture	Directing Actors Lecture	Rehearsal			
11:00						11:00							
12:00						12:00							
13:00							13:00	Special Training on Set Equipment	Camera Hands-on Training	Production Meeting		Rehearsal	Rehearsal
14:00						14:00							
15:00				Editing Clinic	Production Design Clinic	Sound Clinic	Production Meeting	15:00					
16:00								16:00	Production Meeting				
17:00								17:00					
18:00			BAFA 2025 Opening				18:00						
19:00							19:00						
20:00		Production Meeting	Production Meeting	Production Meeting	20:00	Production Meeting	Production Meeting	Rehearsal	Final Check				
21:00					21:00								
22:00					22:00								

\*The schedule is subject to change.

DATE TIME	9.19 FRI	9.20 SAT	9.21 SUN	9.22 MON		DATE TIME	9.23 TUE	9.24 WED	9.25 THU	9.26 FRI	9.27 SAT					
Workshop Schedule	MPA-BAFA Film Workshop / Faculty Film Screening / Lecture / Clinic / Mentoring					Workshop Schedule	BIFF event / Lecture / Clinic / Mentoring		Screening	BIFF 2025 Closing Ceremony	Check-out / Departure					
Production Schedule	Post-Production					Production Schedule	Post-Production									
	Film Editing / Foley / Film Scoring			Sound Mixing / Film Scoring / DI			Sound Mixing / Film Scoring / DI	DCP								
09:00						09:00										
10:00	Editing Clinic	[MPA-BAFA Film Workshop] MPA Special Lecture	Sound Lecture	Post-Production		10:00	Film Scoring Lecture	Post-Production	Script Clinic							
11:00																
12:00						12:00										
13:00	Film Scoring Clinic	[MPA-BAFA Film Workshop] Pitch Competition & Group Mentoring	Directing Mentor Film Screening & Talk Session: <i>The Long Walk</i> (2019)	Cinematography Mentor Film Screening & Talk Session: <i>The Villainess</i> (2017)		13:00	Sound Clinic	Foley Lecture	Script Clinic							
14:00																
15:00	Masterclass KIM Jeewoon						15:00	DI Clinic	Screenwriting Lecture							
16:00							16:00									
17:00						17:00										
18:00						18:00										
19:00	Post-Production & Rough Cut Screening	Post-Production	Post-Production	Post-Production		19:00	Post-Production	DI Clinic	BAFA 2025 Graduation Ceremony & Short Film Screening	[BIFF] Closing Ceremony						
20:00														20:00		
21:00													21:00			
22:00						22:00			Celebration Night	[BIFF] Closing Reception						



# DAILY SCHEDULE

Felix by STX Hotel & Suite → FLX

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	VENUE
9.7 SUN	09:00 - 18:00	Location Scouting	
	18:00 - 20:00	BAFA 2025 Opening Program Orientation & Short Film Presentation	OASE Busan
9.8 MON	09:00 - 18:00	Location Scouting	
	19:00 - 22:00	Production Meeting	FLX 4F Fellow Room
9.9 TUE	10:00 - 12:00	Editing Lecture by Steve M. CHOE	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	13:00 - 18:00	Editing Clinic (Editing Fellows ONLY) by Steve M. CHOE	FLX Editing Fellow Room
	13:00 - 18:00	Production Design Clinic (Production Design Fellows ONLY) by Kim Jin-young	FLX 23F Seminar Room A
	19:00 - 22:00	Production Meeting	FLX 4F Fellow Room
9.10 WED	10:00 - 12:00	Production Design Lecture by KIM Jin-young	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	14:00 - 18:00	Sound Clinic (Sound Fellows ONLY) by HAN Myung-hwan	Busan Post Lab
	14:00 - 18:00		
		Production Meeting	FLX 4F Fellow Room
	19:00 - 22:00		

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	VENUE
9.11 THU	10:00 - 12:00	DI Lecture by CHO Heedae	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	13:00 - 16:00	Special Training on Set Equipment by CHO Heedae	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	16:00 - 18:00	Production Meeting	FLX 4F Fellow Room
	19:00 - 22:00		
9.12 FRI	10:00 - 12:00	Cinematography Lecture by PARK Junghun	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	13:00 - 18:00	Camera Hands-on Training by PARK Junghun	Busan Cinema Studios
	13:00 - 18:00	Production Meeting	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	19:00 - 22:00		
9.13 SAT	10:00 - 12:00	Directing Actors Lecture by Mattie DO	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	13:00 - 18:00	Rehearsal	FLX
	19:00 - 22:00		
9.14 SUN	10:00 - 12:00	Rehearsal	FLX
	13:00 - 18:00		
	19:00 - 22:00	Final Check	FLX
9.15 MON		Shooting Day 1	
9.16 TUE		Shooting Day 2	
9.17 WED		Shooting Day 3	
9.18 THU		Shooting Day 4	

Felix by STX Hotel & Suite → FLX

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	VENUE
9.19 FRI	10:00 - 12:00	Editing Clinic (Editing Fellows ONLY) by Steve M. CHOE	FLX Editing Fellow Room
	13:00 - 15:00	Film Scoring Clinic (Film Scoring Team ONLY) by HAN Jae-gweon	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	15:00 - 18:00	Masterclass by KIM Jeewoon	Dongseo University
	19:00 - 22:00	Post-Production & Rough Cut Screening	FLX 4F Lecture Room
9.20 SAT	10:00 - 12:00	[MPA-BAFA Film Workshop] MPA Special Lecture by Carlos SALDANHA	Community Media Foundation
	13:00 - 18:00	[MPA-BAFA Film Workshop] Pitch Competition & Group Mentoring	Dongseo University
	19:00 - 22:00	Post-Production	Dongseo University
9.21 SUN	10:00 - 12:00	Sound Lecture by HAN Myung-hwan	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	13:00 - 16:00	Directing Mentor Film Screening & Talk Session: <i>The Long Walk</i> (2019) by Mattie DO	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	16:00 - 18:00	Film Scoring Clinic (Film Scoring Team ONLY) by HAN Jae-gweon	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	19:00 - 22:00	Post-Production	Dongseo University
9.22 MON	10:00-12:00	Post-Production	Dongseo University
	13:00-16:00	Cinematography Mentor Film Screening Session: <i>The Villainess</i> (2017) by PARK Junghun	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	16:00-18:00	Sound Clinic (Sound Fellows ONLY) by HAN Myung-hwan	Busan Post Lab
	19:00-22:00	Post-Production	Busan Post Lab

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	VENUE
9.23 TUE	10:00 - 12:00	Film Scoring Lecture by HAN Jae-gweon	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	13:00 - 16:00	Sound Clinic (Sound Fellows ONLY) by KIM Yong-kook	Busan Post Lab
	16:00 - 18:00	DI Clinic by CHO Heedae	Busan Post Lab
	19:00 - 22:00	Post-Production	Busan Post Lab
9.24 WED	10:00 - 12:00	Post-Production	Busan Post Lab
	13:00 - 15:00	Foley Lecture by KIM Yong-kook	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	15:00 - 18:00	Screenwriting Lecture by LEE Wonsuk	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	19:00 - 22:00	DI Clinic by CHO Heedae	Busan Post Lab
9.25 THU	10:00 - 12:00	Script Clinic (Applicants ONLY) by LEE Wonsuk	FLX 4F Lecture Room
	13:00 - 15:00		
	19:00 - 21:00	BAFA 2025 Graduation Ceremony & Short Film Screening	Busan Cinema Center Cinema 2
9.26 FRI	21:30 - 24:00	Celebration Night	GATSBY
	18:00 - 22:00	[BIFF] Closing Ceremony	Busan Cinema Center BIFF Theater
	22:00 - 24:00	[BIFF] Closing Reception	Pradise Hotel 1F ON THE PLATE & Outdoor Garden

# GRADUATION CEREMONY & SHORT FILM SCREENING

The eight short films made by the fellows will be screened at the Graduation Ceremony. These films will show the fellows’ passion for and the hard work put into the making of these short films with the support of renowned filmmaking masters and competent experts. It will be a time to confirm the potential for building networks of Asian filmmakers and to enjoy the fruits of collaboration, transcending language barriers and cultural differences.

**Date** September 25, 19:00 KST  
**Venue** Busan Cinema Center, Cinema 2  
\*Free admission on a first-come, first-served basis



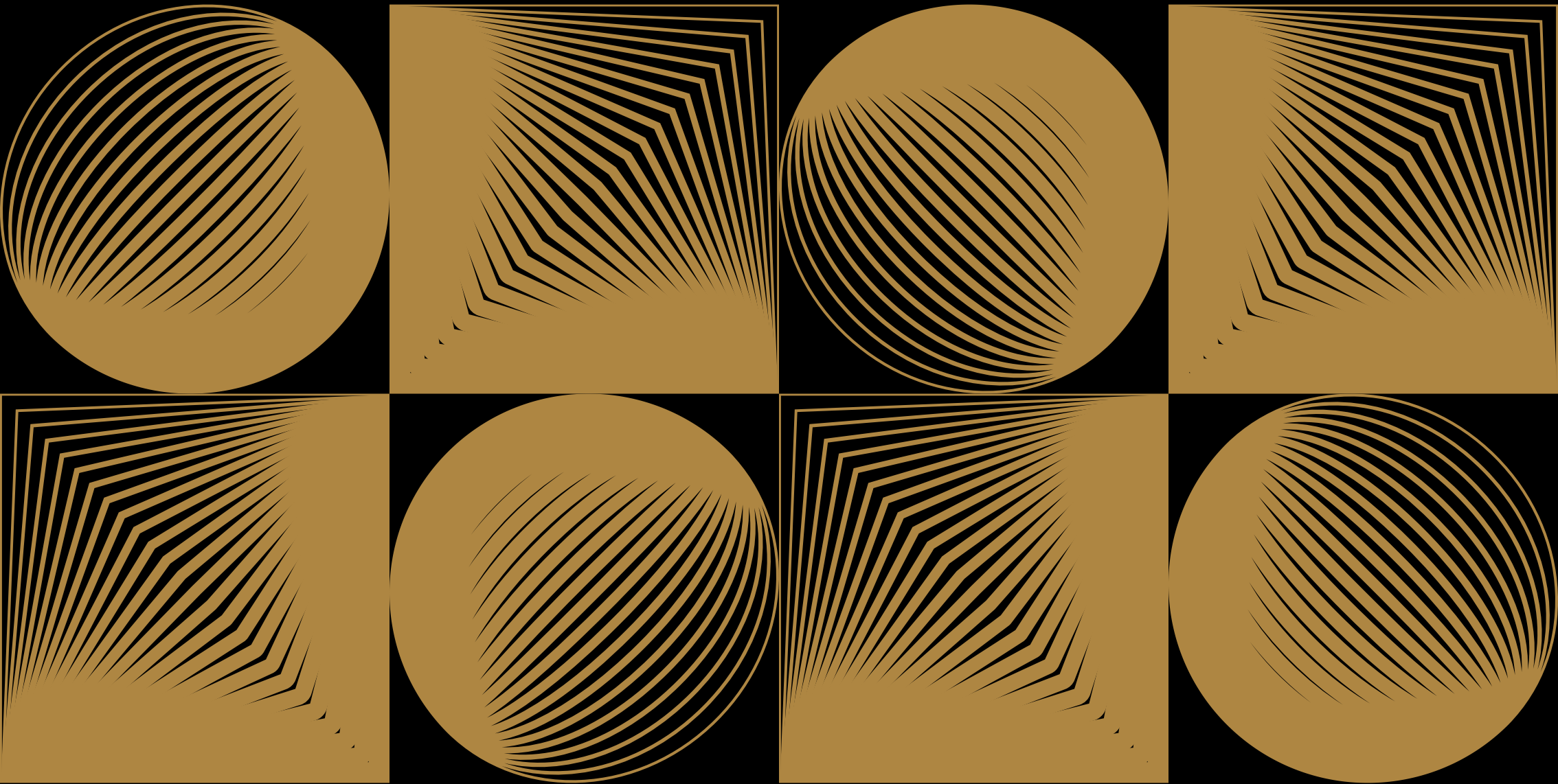
BAFA 2024

## BAFA 2025 Short Films

<b>An Exchange</b>	In a mysterious forest where people exchange memories to forget them, two women meet and share their secrets.
<b>The Basket</b>	In a neighborhood bathhouse, two elderly women move through familiar routines. A quiet absence gathers between them.
<b>The Old Man and the Grave</b>	In a desolate cemetery, an old gravedigger faces a life-threatening situation when a dead man comes back to life from inside the coffin.
<b>Bus Stop</b>	At a lonely bus stop late at night, a weary sex worker and a pregnant stranger cross paths, and their brief exchange sparks a fragile connection – one that leaves behind tenderness, unspoken longing, and the weight of a choice.
<b>Double Knot</b>	A single knot. On the night she leaves, it holds her between the unknown and the familiar.
<b>Sambal Tteokbokki</b>	One dish, two cultures, and a friendship that redefines taste and identity
<b>Saranghae</b>	When airstrikes shut Iran’s skies and sever communications, a Korean refinery engineer in Busan – already on thin ice with his wife in Tehran – finds his flight canceled and his calls going to voicemail, forcing him to confront the cost of his absences as he struggles to reach his family.
<b>You Never Existed</b>	The day her husband is laid to rest, Hana must decide whether to confide a painful secret to her sister-in-law.



# HISTORY OF AFA / BAFA

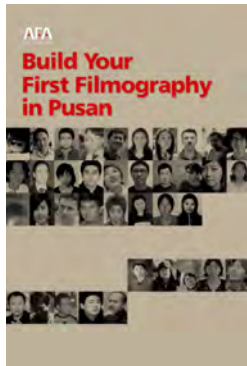


# 454 FELLOWS FROM 35 COUNTRIES OF AFA / BAFA INCLUDING THIS YEAR'S FELLOWS



\*The fellows from non-Asian countries are Korean nationals residing abroad.

# HISTORY OF AFA / BAFA



## AFA 2005

PERIOD 24 SEPT – 14 OCT

DEAN HOU Hsiao-hsien

FACULTY Nonzee NIMIBUTR, YU Likwai  
PARK Kiyong, HWANG Ki-seok

SHORT FILM 1 The Ceiling (17min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 International Film Festival (15min, 35mm, color)



## AFA 2006

PERIOD 29 SEPT – 20 OCT

DEAN IM Kwon-taek

DEPUTY DEAN PARK Kiyong

FACULTY BAE Chang-ho, TAKAMA Kenji  
Darezhan OMIRBAYEV, BAK Ki-ung

SHORT FILM 1 All Bunnies Can Dance (11min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 The Calling (14min, HD, color)



## AFA 2007

PERIOD 27 SEPT – 13 OCT

DEAN Mohsen MAKHMALBAF

DEPUTY DEAN PARK Kiyong

DIRECTING MENTOR Pen-ek RATANARUANG

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR KURITA Toyomichi

SHORT FILM 1 Blossom (13min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Virgins (14min, HD, color)



## AFA 2008

PERIOD 25 SEPT – 11 OCT

DEAN HOU Hsiao-hsien

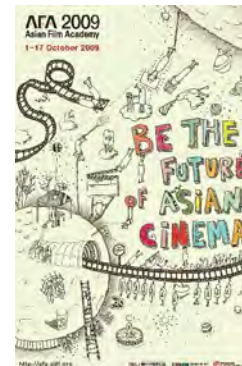
DEPUTY DEAN PARK Kiyong

DIRECTING MENTOR Brillante MENDOZA

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR WONG Ngok Tai

SHORT FILM 1 One Last Goodbye (10min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Letters From White Mountain (14min, HD, color)



## AFA 2009

PERIOD 1 – 17 OCT

DEAN KUROSAWA Kiyoshi

DEPUTY DEAN PARK Kiyong

DIRECTING MENTOR HO Yuhang

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Mahmoud KALARI

SHORT FILM 1 An Encounter in the Woods (12min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 A Girl (12min, HD, color)



## AFA 2010

PERIOD 30 SEPT – 16 OCT

DEAN Abbas KIAROSTAMI

DEPUTY DEAN MOON Seungwook

DIRECTING MENTOR OGIGAMI Naoko

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR KIM Hyungkoo

SHORT FILM 1 Joon and Wendy (13min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Ignorance (11min, HD, color)





## AFA 2011

PERIOD 29 SEPT – 15 OCT

DEAN Krzysztof ZANUSSI

DEPUTY DEAN OH Seok-geun

DIRECTING MENTOR Murali NAIR

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Johnny E. JENSEN

SHORT FILM 1 The Last 5 Minutes (11min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 The Keeper (11min, HD, color)



## AFA 2012

PERIOD 27 SEPT – 14 OCT

DEAN JIA Zhangke

DEPUTY DEAN OH Seok-geun

DIRECTING MENTOR Parviz SHAHBAZI

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR WATANABE Makoto

SHORT FILM 1 The Holiday (9min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Seok-jin Can't Swim (11min, HD, color)



## AFA 2013

PERIOD 26 SEPT – 13 OCT

DEAN LEE Chang-dong

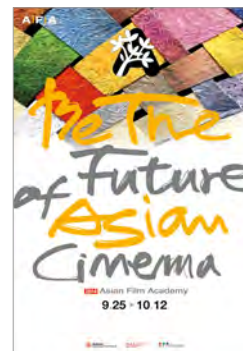
DEPUTY DEAN OH Seok-geun

DIRECTING MENTOR Aditya ASSARAT

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR KURITA Toyomichi

SHORT FILM 1 Departure (14min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Black Mirror (14min, HD, color)



## AFA 2014

PERIOD 25 SEPT – 12 OCT

DEAN Béla TARR

DEPUTY DEAN OH Seok-geun

DIRECTING MENTOR SONG Il-gon

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Ryszard LENCZEWSKI

SHORT FILM 1 The Return (15min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Brothers (10min, HD, color)



## AFA 2015

PERIOD 24 SEPT – 11 OCT

DEAN WANG Xiaoshuai

DEPUTY DEAN OH Seok-geun

DIRECTING MENTOR Anthony CHEN

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Jerzy ZIELIŃSKI

SHORT FILM 1 The Last Ship Home (15min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Meet Sohee (15min, HD, color)



## AFA 2016

PERIOD 29 SEPT – 16 OCT

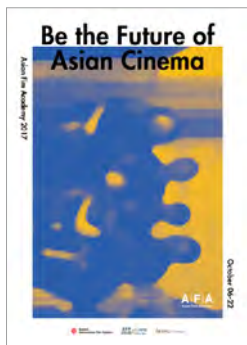
DEAN TSAI Ming Liang

DIRECTING MENTOR Vimukthi JAYASUNDARA

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Bogumil GODFREJOW

SHORT FILM 1 Hello, Uncle! (20min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Cichlid (17min, HD, color)



## AFA 2017

PERIOD 6 – 22 OCT

DEAN KORE-EDA Hirokazu

DIRECTING MENTOR BOO Junfeng

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Tooraj MANSOORI

SHORT FILM 1 Street Stall (20min, HD, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Pencil, Money, Whatever, Microphone (15min, HD, color)



## AFA 2018

PERIOD 27 SEPT – 14 OCT

DEAN LOU Ye

DIRECTING MENTOR TAN Chui Mui

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Artur ŻURAWSKI

SHORT FILM 1 Classroom (16min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Clear Water (12min, DCP, color)



## AFA 2019

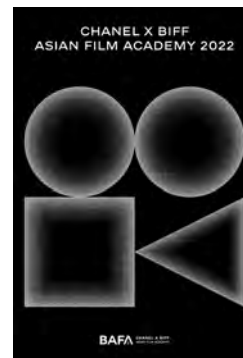
PERIOD 26 SEPT – 13 OCT

DIRECTING MENTOR Mouly SURYA

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Karina KLESZCZEWSKA,  
KIM Young-ro

SHORT FILM 1 The Perfect Wife (9min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 2 lipstick (11min, DCP, color)



## BAFA 2022

PERIOD 27 SEPT – 14 OCT

DEAN Rithy PANH

DIRECTING MENTOR TAN Chui Mui

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR UM Hye-jung

SHORT FILM 1 Under the Roof (17min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 2 This Must Be the Place (12min, DCP, color)



## BAFA 2023

PERIOD 24 SEPT – 13 OCT

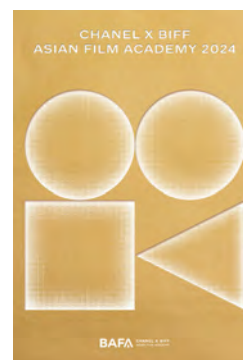
DEAN SUWA Nobuhiro

DIRECTING MENTOR KIM Hee-Jung

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR Artur ŻURAWSKI

SHORT FILM 1 The Last Night in Korea (18min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Pink Tree (18min, DCP, color)



## BAFA 2024

PERIOD 21 SEPT – 11 OCT

DEAN ZHANG Lu

DIRECTING MENTOR Kamila ANDINI

CINEMATOGRAPHY MENTOR URATA Hideho

SHORT FILM 1 Lusthouse (5min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 2 Visitor (7min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 3 A Gift That You've Left (5min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 4 Nomads by the Sea (6min, DCP, color)

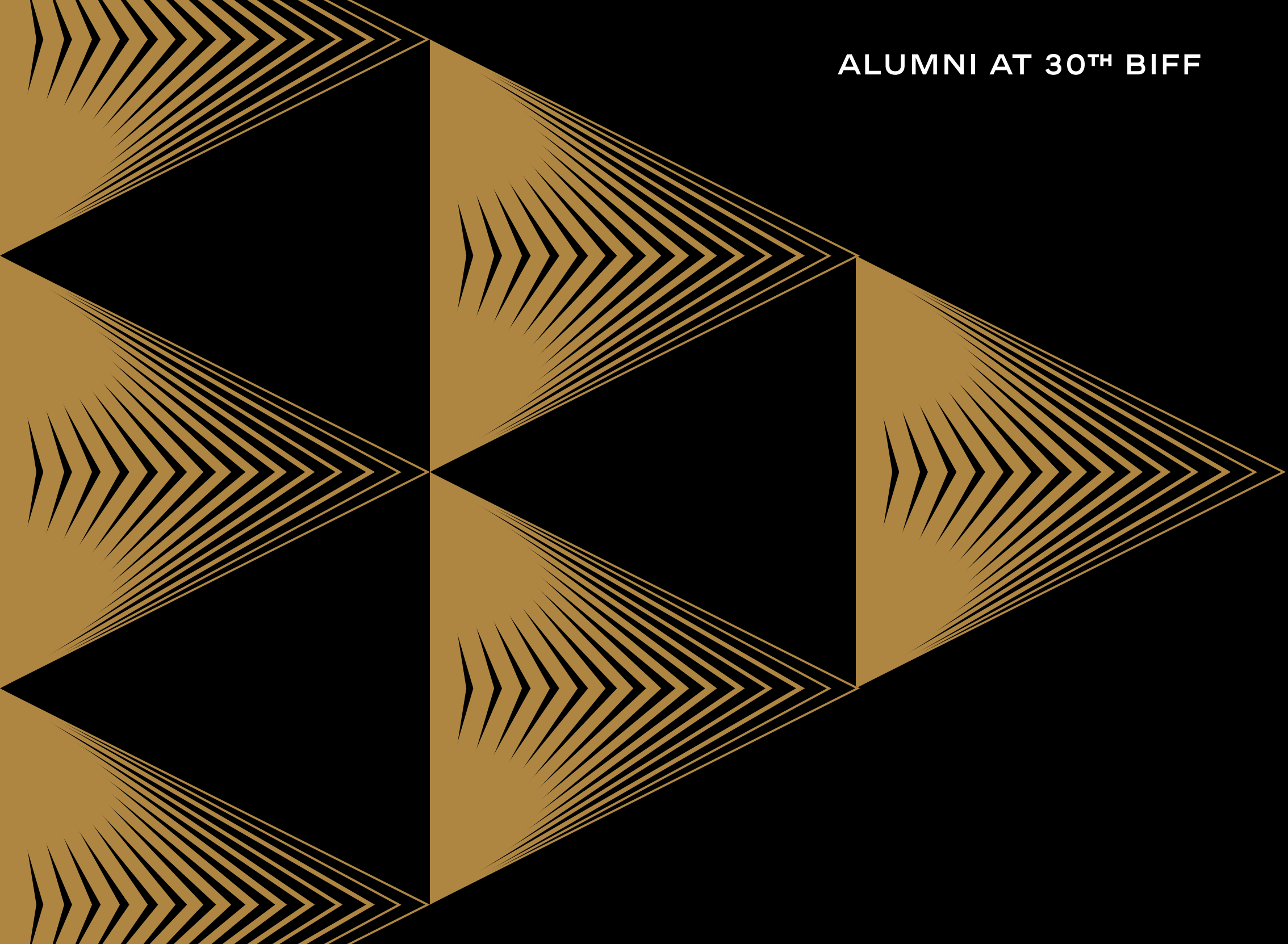
SHORT FILM 5 The Artist (5min, DCP, B&W)

SHORT FILM 6 Errands (2min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 7 A Nice Night (5min, DCP, color)

SHORT FILM 8 Last Days of Us (6min, DCP, color)

ALUMNI AT 30<sup>TH</sup> BIFF



World Premiere

## Spying Stars

France/Sri Lanka/India | 2025 | 98min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 Competition



Cinematographer

**Eeshit NARAIN**

(AFA 2013 Alumnus, India)

Back in Sri Lanka after years in space, Anandi is quarantined in an isolated resort following the outbreak of a mysterious virus. She soon notices unsettling occurrences and escapes to a nearby village. There she comes to terms with the recent death of her father.

World Premiere

## Mothernet

Indonesia/Singapore | 2025 | 107min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 Vision - Asia



Cinematographer

**LIM Teck Siang**

(AFA 2009 Alumnus, Singapore)

When his mother—the only person who ever understood him—dies, Rama is left to face the world alone. Just as he begins to spiral, he finds unexpected solace in i-BU: an AI created to replicate her voice, presence... and maybe even her love.



World Premiere

## Malika

Kazakhstan/Moldova/Ireland | 2025 | 94min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 Vision - Asia



Cinematographer

**Aigul NURBULATOVA**

(AFA 2018 Alumna, Kazakhstan)

Twelve-year-old Malika's entire life revolves around her mom Roza: she is her friend, her world, and her pillar. But when Roza decides to remarry, Malika understands that she will have to go to her father's house, as the Islamic tradition dictates. Malika now faces the impossible dilemma between disrupting this new marriage and keeping the life she's used to or sacrificing her own happiness for her mother's.

Asian Premiere

## Becoming Human

Cambodia | 2025 | 99min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 A Window on Asian Cinema

Venice International Film Festival 2025



Director

**Polen Ly**

(AFA 2018 Alumnus, Cambodia)

Editor

**NEANG Kavich**

(AFA 2013 Alumnus, Cambodia)

An abandoned cinema's former spirit guardian wanders through rapidly transformed landscapes to reach her rebirth. Shocked by the world's brutality, she must decide whether to become human again or remain a homeless ghost.

Asian Premiere  
**AMOEBA**

Singapore/Netherlands/France/Spain/Korea | 2025 | 98min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 A Window on Asian Cinema

Toronto International Film Festival 2025



Director

**TAN Siyou**

(AFA 2019 Alumna, Singapore)

Production Designer

**Sam MANACSA**

(AFA 2019 Alumna, Philippines)

At an authoritarian all-girls school, four misfit teens form a secret gang. Their fumbling rebellion unearths buried desires and the quiet violence of growing up.

Asian Premiere  
**In the Land of Arto**

France/Armenia | 2025 | 104min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 A Window on Asian Cinema

Locarno Film Festival 2025



Director

**Tamara STEPANYAN**

(AFA 2007 Alumna, Armenia)

Céline arrives in Armenia for the first time to legalize the death of Arto, her husband. She discovers that he has lied to her, that he fought in the war, usurped his identity, and that his former friends consider him a deserter. A new journey begins for her, as she encounters Arto's past: invalids from the battles of 2020, veterans of the victorious battles of the 90s, hauntings from a war that never ends. A woman chases a ghost, but how do you bury it? Can the dead be saved?

Asian Premiere

## Human Resource

Thailand | 2025 | 122min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 A Window on Asian Cinema

Venice International Film Festival 2025



Cinematographer

**Natdanai NAKSUWARN**

(AFA 2016 Alumnus, Thailand)

Working in HR, Fren closely observes people's lives through interviews with numerous young new hires at her unjust company. No one knows she's one month pregnant—and quietly grappling with whether to bring a child into this difficult world.

Asian Premiere

## The Fox King

Malaysia/Indonesia | 2025 | 94min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 A Window on Asian Cinema

Toronto International Film Festival 2025



Editor

**Carlo Francisco MANATAD**

(AFA 2010 Alumnus, Philippines)

Co-producer

**CHENG Thim Kian**

(AFA 2016 Alumnus, Malaysia)

Fraternal twins Ali and Amir are forced to fend for themselves after their father abandons them after remarrying a younger bride. The arrival of a new teacher, Lara, further puts their brotherly bond to the test.

World Premiere

## Whisperings of the Moon

Hong Kong, China/Cambodia/India | 2025 | 87min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 A Window on Asian Cinema



Producer, Screenwriter

**Siddhartha JATLA**

(AFA 2011 Alumnus, India)

Grieving actress Nisay returns to Cambodia, reigniting a passionate past love with Thida. Trapped by harsh realities—Family, Duty, Society—their love survives only in memory and on stage, forcing a heartbreakingly rational farewell.

World Premiere

## Rihanna

Nepal | 2025 | 17min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 Wide Angle – Asian Short Film Competition



Director

**Suraj PAUDEL**

(BAFA 2022 Alumnus, Nepal)

Producer

**Ujjal Bastakoti**

(BAFA 2024 Alumnus, Nepal)

**Abinash Bikram SHAH**

(AFA 2008 Alumnus, Nepal)

Sound Designer

**Dikesh KHADGI SHAHI**

(AFA 2016 Alumnus, Nepal)

When 13-year-old Saraswoti, named after the Hindu goddess of knowledge, renames herself Rihanna after the Western superstar, it sparks an outrage in her deeply religious home in a remote Nepali village.



World Premiere

## Fruit

Singapore | 2025 | 15min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 Wide Angle – Asian Short Film Competition



Cinematographer

**Rachel LIEW**

(AFA 2016 Alumna, Singapore)

Sound Designer

**Grace WONG**

(AFA 2017 Alumna, Singapore)

In a time and place where abortion is illegal, a pregnant woman's repeated attempts to end her pregnancy fail, until she crosses paths with a strangely serene bus driver.

World Premiere

## Please P(r)ay Attention

Thailand | 2025 | 25min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 Wide Angle – Asian Short Film Competition



Producer

**Vijakre THIRAPATANA**

(AFA 2018 Alumnus, Thailand)

Cinematographer

**Natdanai NAKSUWARN**

(AFA 2016 Alumnus, Thailand)

Peng, a laborer from the Northeast, comes to Bangkok looking for a job with his girlfriend. One day, his Boss gives him a blue-colored plant with a prayer. Strangely, the ceiling in their room started dripping water onto this plant.

World Premiere

## In the Valley

Malaysia | 2025 | 21min | DCP | Color+B&W

BIFF 2025 Wide Angle – Asian Short Film Competition



Sound Designer

**CHENG Lijie**

(AFA 2018 Alumnus, Singapore)

One afternoon, 11 year-old Lei who will leave her hometown reluctantly soon, explores a valley with her friend and fathoms that nature stood upon her that are million years old still carry memories through the wind, the cave wall and the water drops.

International Premiere

## Panic Button

Kyrgyzstan/Chez Republic | 2025 | 85min | DCP | Color

BIFF 2025 Wide Angle – Documentary Competition



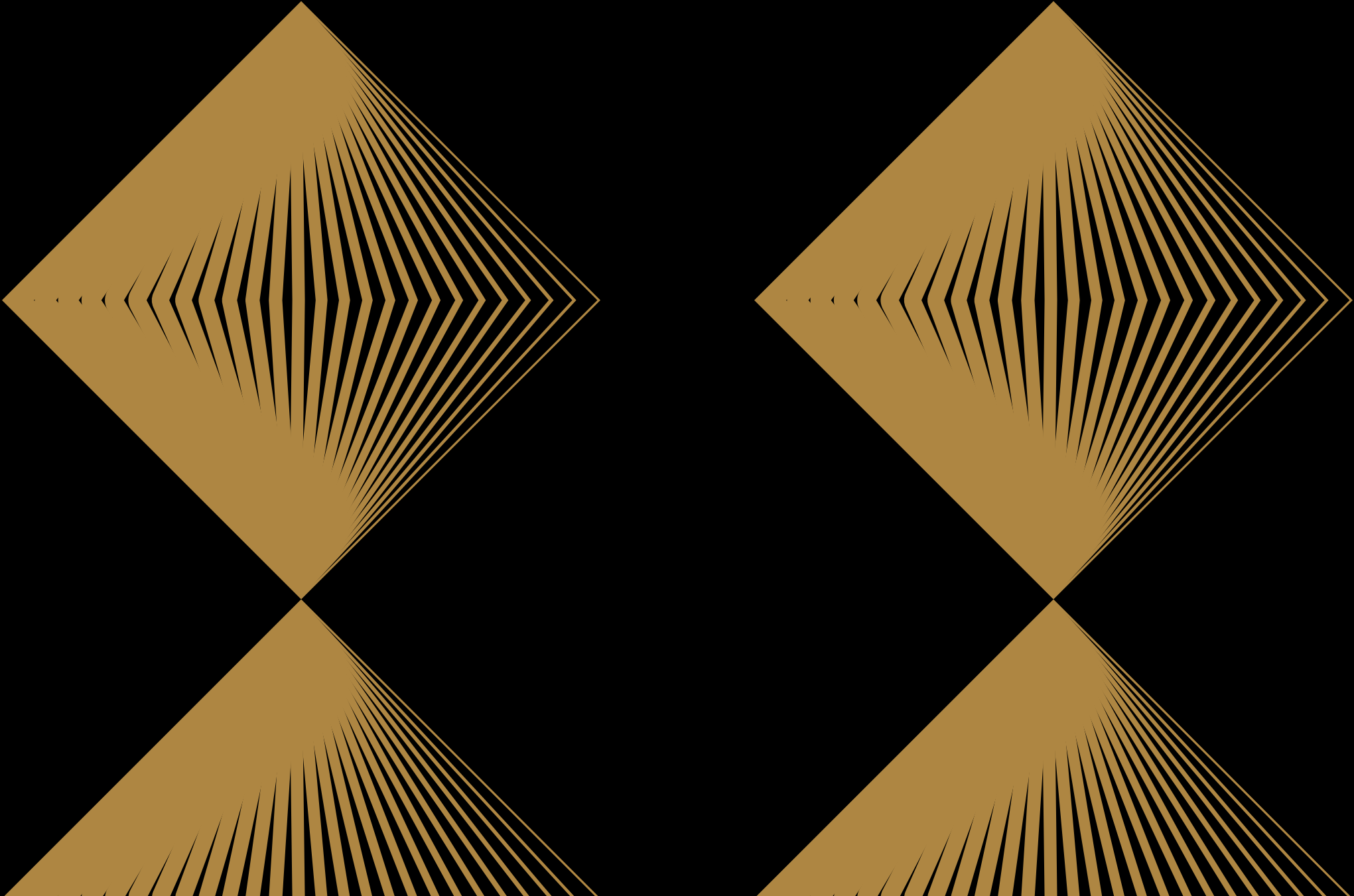
Director, Producer, Cinematographer

**Samara SAGYNBAEVA**

(BAFA 2023 Alumna, Kyrgyzstan)

What toll does the fight against corruption take on a personal life?

ALUMNI AT  
ASIAN PROJECT MARKET 2025



# Lanka (The Fire)

Director  
**Ankita PURKAYASTHA**  
(AFA 2016 Alumna, India)

**Production Country** India  
**Project Status** Development, Financing  
**Format** 4K I color I 120min  
**Logline** 12-year-old Simon accidentally injures Shiv during their routine karate session. The incident escalates into a David-and-Goliath-like conflict between their families, who stands on the opposite side of the socio-economic spectrum.

# Wake Me up When the Mourning Ends

Director  
**LAU kok Rui**  
(BAFA 2022 Alumna, Malaysia)

**Production Country** Malaysia/Hong Kong, China/Italy/Taiwan  
**Project Status** Development, Script Development, Financing  
**Format** 4K I color I 100min  
**Logline** A grieving single mother returns for her fiancé’s final rites, hoping to reclaim her son—only to confront a family still mourning and a mother’s sorrow that mirrors her own.

# New Life

Director  
**LI Yingtong**  
(BAFA 2024 Alumna, China)

**Producer** Annie Song (BAFA 2024 Alumna, China)  
**Production Country** China  
**Project Status** Development, Script Development, Financing  
**Format** 4K I color I 100min  
**Logline** After her husband’s death, Lin and her daughter confront guilt, superstition, and buried emotions, each embarking on a quiet journey toward reconciliation and the hope of a new balance.



# ALUMNI AT ASIAN CINEMA FUND 2025

## Script Development Fund – AFA / BAFA Project

### New Life

Director

**LI Yingtong**

(BAFA 2024 Alumna, China)

After her husband's death, Lin and her daughter confront guilt, superstition, and buried emotions, each embarking on a quiet journey toward reconciliation and the hope of a new balance.

# STAFF

## BAFA



**PARK Sungho**

BIFF Programmer  
BAFA Head



**LEE Yunmin**

BAFA Manager



**HA Jiyun**

Program Coordinator



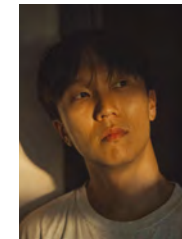
**JI Yubin**

Guest Service



**SHIN Eunkyung**

Guest Service



**LEE Shinhee**

General Affair



**PARK Ikjae**

Accounting

## Alumni Technical Assistants



**Lincoln YEO**

Cinematography  
AFA 2019 Alumnus  
Singapore



**Prateek PAMECHA**

Cinematography  
BAFA 2022 Alumnus  
India



**Nikhil PARIHAR**

Editing  
AFA 2017 Alumnus  
India

## BAFA Production Team



**LEE Junsang**

Production General Manager



**KIM Boseon**

Production Manager



**BAEK Seunghun**

Production Manager



**SHIN Juhyun**

Production Manager



**SHIM Na Yoon**

Production Manager



**LEE Sanghyun**

Equipment Manager

## Documentary Film Crew



**EOM JungHyun**

Directing / Editing



**CHA Geonmu**

Cinematography



**NAM Kun Hee**

Cinematography

## Film Scoring – Jecheon International Music & Film Academy



**KIM Sungkun**



**KWON Suhyun**

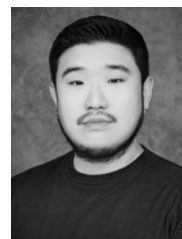


**LEE Jungun**



**PARK Sohyoun**

## Photography Team



**BANG Geunwoo**



**PARK Jonghoon**



**JANG Donghyeok**



# Applications for 2026 Admission Producing Track

## Application Period

October 15, 2025  
November 12, 2025

6 PM (KST)

## Course

International Film Business Academy  
- Producing

## Course length

7 months from March to October, 2026  
- 2 semesters, Including vacation

## Admitted applicants

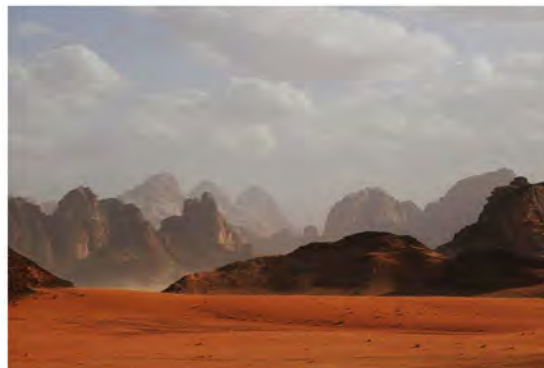
20  
- Including 2 Busan residents under the Busan quota

## Qualifications

- Must have U.N.-defined "Asian" nationality or Taiwanese Nationality
- \* Must possess a valid passport from the Asian nation corresponding to their nationality
- There are no restrictions based on academic qualifications or age
- \* Korean men must show proof of completion or exemption of mandatory military service
- Must be competent in English (all coursework will be conducted in English)

## Benefits provided to admitted fellows

- Tuition fees covered by a full scholarship
- \* Personal Financial Guarantee with Official Bank Statements upon the confirmation of the final successful applicants (around January or February) is required for the Application for Certificate of Visa Eligibility (Visa Issuance) process; Approximately USD 3,000 (Minimum)
- \* An additional Personal Financial Guarantee with Korean Bank Account approximately of USD 2,000 - 3,000 may also be required for Sojourn Extension Process during the second semester
- \* After entering Korea on a General Trainee (Other) / D-4-2 visa, fellows are not permitted to leave the country until they have received their Residence Card, as the visa is a single-entry type (March to May)
- A round-trip airfare provided to non-Korean fellows (details to be given later)
- Dormitory room provided during the total period of education (including the vacation)
- Medical Insurance (Limited coverage and National Health Insurance) to non-Korean fellows during the total period of education (including the vacation)
- \* Matriculation - first 6 months: Limited coverage plan from Private Insurance Agency
- After 6 months - Graduation: National Health Insurance
- \* Important: Since there is a period of approximately two months at the beginning of the semester during which insurance enrollment is not possible (before receiving a Residence Card, typically from March to May), selected fellows must purchase traveler's insurance to cover this gap before departing for Korea



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## Asian Film Commissions Network

Asia's largest non-profit international film-related organization for your filming locations, regulations, incentives and clearance requirements in Asia



ASEAN-ROK FILM LEADERS INCUBATOR

**BUSAN, ROK 9.4 - 9.19, 2025**

**HOST**

Busan Metropolitan City

**ORGANIZERS**

Busan Film Commission

Asian Film Commissions Network

**SPONSOR**

ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund

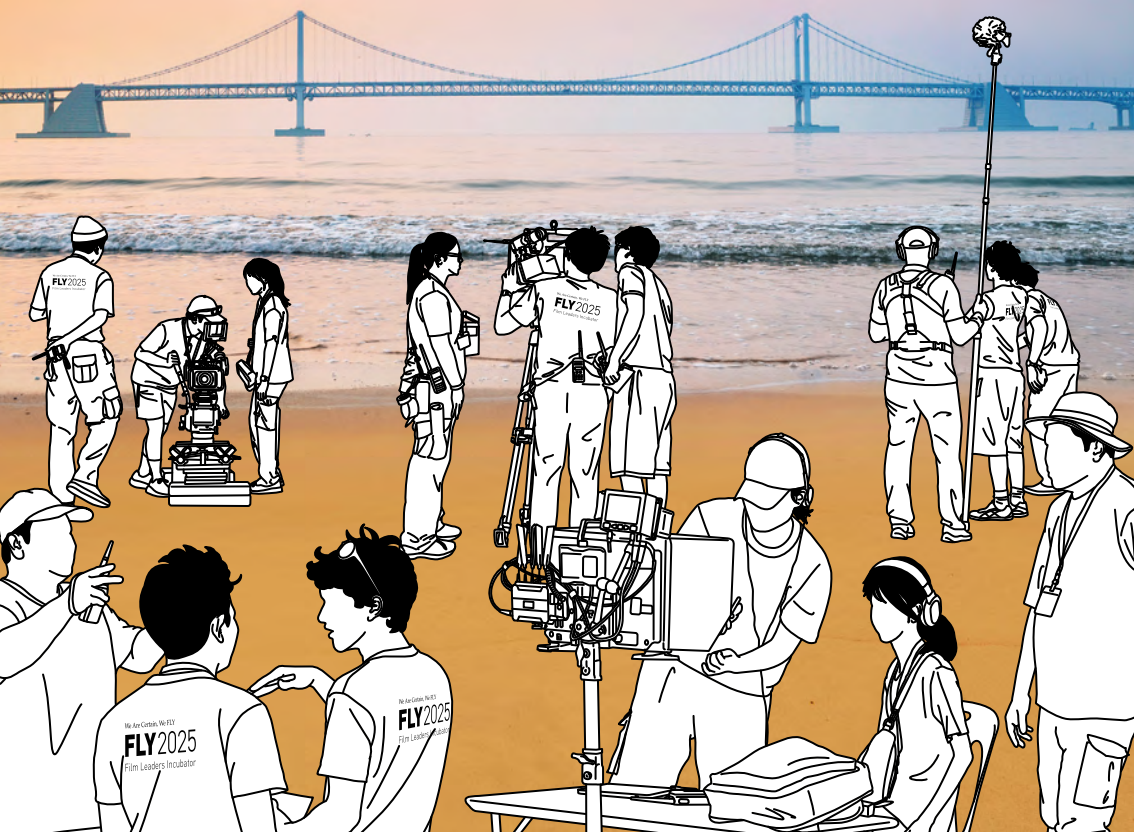
**COOPERATION**

Busan Asian Film School

Busan International Film Festival-Asian Film Academy

Aputure Imaging Industries

# FLY 2025



**MOTION PICTURE  
ASSOCIATION  
ASIA PACIFIC**

*Supporting Creators  
From Script To Screen*



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