



MACAO
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL &
AWARDS

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times

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11th Int'l Film Festival

AMBASSADOR
CAGE

I'll be there!

SHOWING INSIDE

Flying Daggers
Special Presentation
Industry Hub
FAQs

Academy-award winner Nicolas Cage was appointed Talent Ambassador for the 2018 IFFAM. Born in Long Beach, California, in 1964, Cage is the son of literature professor, August Coppola, and dancer Joy Vogelsang. The renowned actor, producer, and director is joining Aaron Kwok, famed Hong Kong singer, dancer, and actor and Lim Yoon A (a.k.a YOONA), member of K-pop group "Girls' Generation," as an IFFAM Talent Ambassador. This appointment exemplifies the festival's mission of bringing together industry professionals from all over the globe. Artistic Director Mike

Goodbridge states: "Nicolas Cage is a brilliant, iconic actor and a star for the ages. We are proud and delighted to welcome him to Macau this year as our talent ambassador and to show his extraordinary new film "Mandy." Cage will attend the Opening Ceremony, taking place on December 8 and will participate in a Masterclass given on the second day of the festival. However, this is not the actor's first time in Macau: in 2013 Cage attended the Huading Awards Show where he was nominated for Best Global Actor in motion pictures. This is no surprise as he is one of the most famous actors in Asia, having over 14 of his movies screened in mainland China.

FLYING DAGGERS: SIX TALKED

Flying Daggers section brings us a collection of six exciting and daring movies produced this year, which won accolades worldwide and are being premiered at the Macau Tower and Cinematheque Passion from December 8 to 12



BUYBUST

During the Philippine drug war, rookie police officer Nina Manigan joins a new PDEA (Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency) anti-drug squad. Her previous team was all killed in a drug raid that had been compromised by corrupt cops. As the new elite group is sent into a rushed operation to bust Biggie Chen, a big drug lord, Nina gets the feeling that history is repeating itself as their cover is blown and no backup comes to their aid. As suspicions grow that there might be a traitor in the squad, Nina realizes it is she who has to find out who the rat is.

Erik Matti, director, and co-writer of the script was born in 1970 in the Philippines. He is an acting coach, producer, writer and director who has won numerous awards including the 22nd Metro Manila Film Festival awards for Best Original Story and Best Screenplay for his film "Magic Temple." He started directing in 1999 and was awarded Movie Cinematographer of the Year and Movie Director of the Year for his film "On the Job" (2013) at the 30th PMPC Star Awards for Movies. Starring as Nina is Anne Curtis, a Filipino-Australian television host, model and actress. Currently, she is hosting the show "It's Showtime" on the ABS-CBN network.



Director Erik Matti
Producer Ronald Stephen Monteverde
Cast Anne Curtis, Brandon Vera, Victor Neri, Arjo Atayde, Nonie Buencamino
Scriptwriters Anton Santamaria, Erik Matti
Cinematographer Neil Derrick Bion
Editor Jay Halili
Production Designer Michael Espanol
Music Erwin Romulo, Malek Lopez
Costumes Loi Villarama
Production Reality Entertainment Inc., Viva Films
World Sales XYZ Films

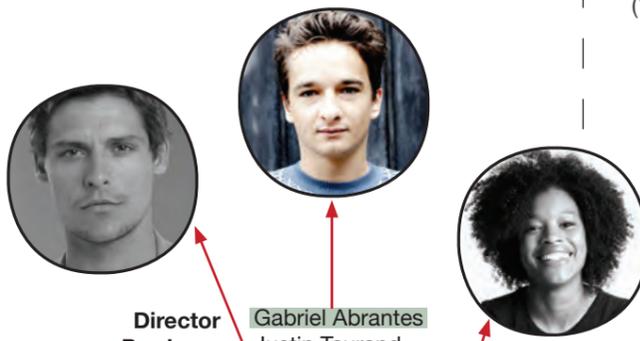
SHOWTIME
Dec 9 Sun 3:00pm Macao Tower



DIAMANTINO

Diamantino tells the story of a great Portuguese football player who, after missing a penalty in the World Cup Final, is disgraced and ends his career. Not playing football anymore, Diamantino is forced to find a new purpose in life, and so he starts a journey with the hopes of finding some sense in life. He encounters neo-fascism, is moved by the refugee crisis, investigates about genetic modification and struggles with the creation of genius. Having premiered at the 74th Cannes Film Festival, Diamantino has won the Grand Prix of the Week of Criticism and Palme Dog.

Gabriel Abrantes was born in the US in 1984 and is currently residing in Lisbon. He studied at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York, where he received a BA in cinema and visual Arts in 2006. Abrantes then studied both at L'Ecole National Des Beaux Arts in Paris and Le Fresnoy Studio National des Arts Contemporains. He started by directing short films that have been screened in Venice, Toronto, Berlin, and Locarno. This is his first feature film, and it is being very well received. Acclaimed Portuguese actor, Carloto Cotta, is the star of the film. Cotta was born in Paris in 1984 and is known for his role in the short movie "Arena" (2009), which won the Palme d'Or at the Festival de Cannes.



Director Gabriel Abrantes
Producer Justin Taurand
Cast Carloto Cotta, Cleo Tavares, Anabela Moreira, Margarida Moreira, Carla Maciel
Scriptwriters Gabriel Abrantes, Daniel Schmidt
Cinematographer Charles Ackley Anderson
Editor Raphaëlle Martin Holger
Production Design Bruno Duarte
Music Ulzse Klotz, Adriana Holtz
Production Les films du belier, Maria & Mayer
World Sales: Charades

SHOWTIME
Dec 8 Sat 9:45pm Macao Tower



IN FABRIC

Sheila Woolchapel is a middle-aged bank clerk who enters a local department store and buys a beautiful red dress. She lives a rather dull life: a teenage son who doesn't speak very much, a job that she doesn't like. The dress starts to improve her self-esteem, making her feel better and happier. As she is wearing it, she meets a man with whom she begins to fall in love. But the good luck ends here. In Fabric tells a haunting story of how this red dress is cursed and yet indestructible. Whoever possesses it has their life turned upside down and is faced with terrible consequences.

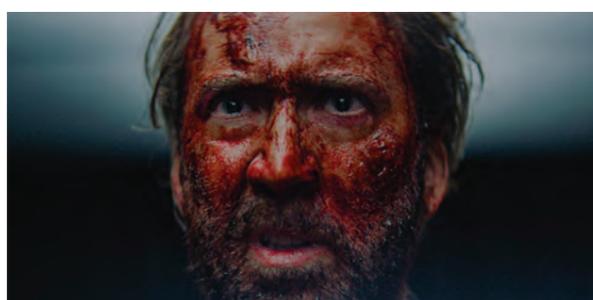
Peter Strickland is a UK-born writer and director who grew up in Reading, Berkshire where he was a part of the Progress Theatre. During this time, he directed an adaptation of Franz Kafka "The Metamorphosis." His first feature film "Katalin Varga" took over four years to create and was selected to be screened in Berlin in 2009 for the official competition segment. His second feature film "Berberian Sound Studio" (2012) received four British Independent Film Awards, including best director. "In Fabric" is his fourth feature film and premiered earlier this year in Toronto. It stars Gwendoline Christie, the British-born actress famous for her role as Brienne of Tarth in the HBO adaptation of "Game of Thrones." Beside her is Marianne Jean-Baptiste, starring as Sheila, who is a well-known British actress famous for "Without a Trace" (2002), "Secrets & Lies" (1996) and "Spy Game" (2001).



Director Peter Strickland
Producer Andrew Starke
Cast Gwendoline Christie, Marianne Jean-Baptiste, Hayley Squires, Leo Bill
Scriptwriter Peter Strickland
Cinematographer Ari Wegner
Editor Matyas Fekete
Production Designer Paki Smith
Music Cavern of Anti-Matter
Costumes Jo Thompson
Production Rook Films
World Sales Bankside Films

SHOWTIME
Dec 11 Tue 9:15pm Cinematheque Passion

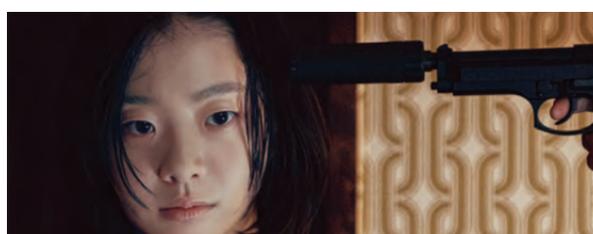
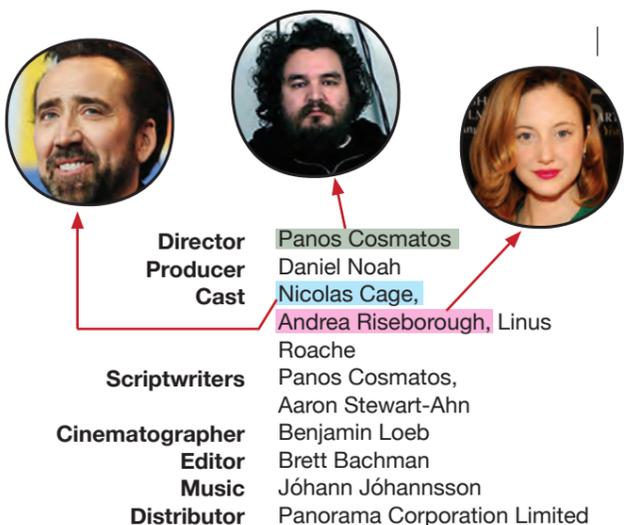
ABOUT FILMS OF THE YEAR



MANDY

Lumberjack Red Miller and his girlfriend Mandy Bloom are a couple in love. They live a simple life in a secluded forest until Jeremiah Sand and his cult appear and shatter their lives. The sadistic cult leader sees Mandy and falls in love with her. He orders his followers to kidnap her so that he may seduce her, but she is not swayed and laughs in his face. He gets angry and orders that she be killed in front of Red who unleashes his anger on a journey to get revenge.

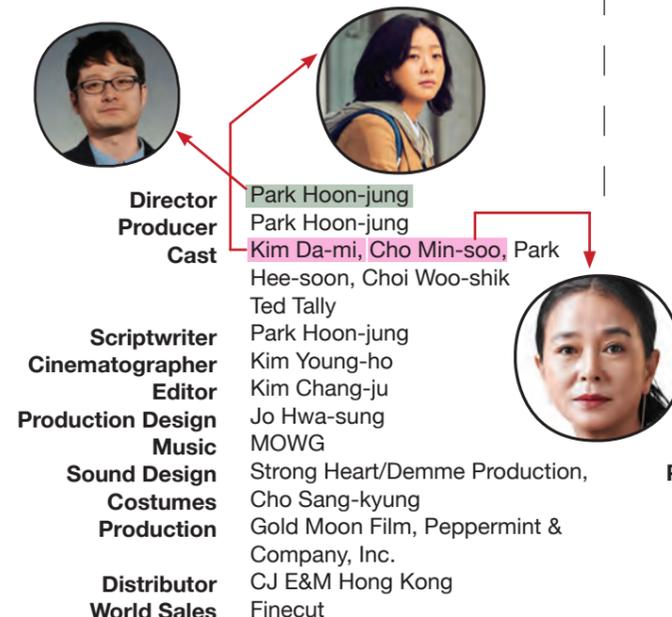
Panos Cosmatos, born in Rome in 1974, is the son of Greek film director George P. Cosmatos and Swedish artist Birgitta Ljungberg-Cosmatos. After moving to Canada in the '80s, the director starts to develop a taste for heavy metal, fantasy art, science fiction and horror films. The feature film that brought him into fame, "Beyond the Black Rainbow" (2010) was screened in numerous film festivals, such as Tribeca and Fantasia. Starring as Red is Academy-Award Winner Nicolas Cage. Cage is an American actor, director, and producer who is best known for his Oscar-winning role in "Leaving Las Vegas" (1995), and his roles in "The Rock" (1996) and "National Treasure" (2004). His co-star is Andrea Riseborough, a British actress born in 1981 famous for her roles in "Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)" (2014), "Oblivion" (2013) and "W.E." (2011).



THE WITCH: PART 1. THE SUBVERSION.

Ja-yoon manages to escape a government-owned facility as a child. As she is traumatized, she loses her memory and has no recollection of her name, her age or her past. She wanders alone and is found by an old couple who decide to take her in. She turns out to be a brilliant student who is invited to enter a televised national talent show. She wants to win as the prize money would greatly help her low-income family. As she appears on television, the people who held her captive find her and she starts being stalked. Her life is suddenly turned upside down as she begins to understand her past and is compelled to run away from danger.

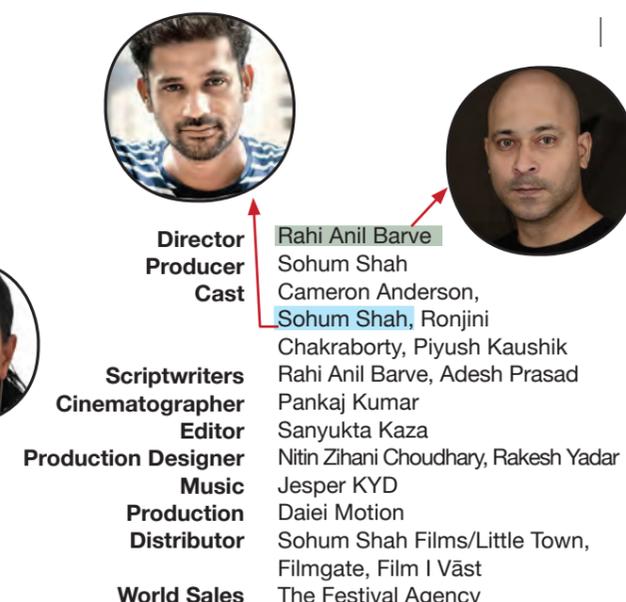
Park Hoon-jung was born in South-Korea. He first started as a screenwriter, having received praise for "I Saw The Devil" (2010) and "The Unjust" (2010). He started directing in 2010 with the action film "The Showdown" that was followed by the police thriller "New World" (2012). This is the first of a planned trilogy. Choi Woo-shik stars in this film. He is a South Korean actor that has won various awards including the Blue Dragon Film Award for Best New Actor. Cho Min-su is his counterpart. She is a South Korean actress best known for her role in the Kim Ki-duk film "Pietà." She was awarded the Grand Bell Award for Best Actress and the Baeksang Arts Award for Most Popular Female in Television.



TUMBBAD

In an Indian village called Tumbbad in the early 20th century, Vinayak, a stubborn bastard son of the village lord, lives obsessed with a mythical ancestral treasure. He is the great-grandson of a witch who is cursed to sleep for several centuries and with whom lies the secret for a great treasure he wants to find. As he confronts her, he is put face to face with an evil god, the guardian of the treasure who will leave him obsessed with gold and riches.

Director Rahi Anil Barve was born in 1979 and first came to fame after the success of his first short film "Manjha," chosen by director Danny Boyle to be part of the BluRay special of his "Slumdog Millionaire" hit film. It was awarded the top prize at the 2007 Mumbai International Film Festival. Cameron Anderson stars in this feature film. He is an actor, known for "The Bank Job" (2008) and "Persona" (2011). Co-starring is Ronjini Chakraborty, an actress, known for "From Sydney with Love" (2012) and "At the End of It All" (2011).



SHOWTIME
Dec 9 Sun 9:00pm Macao Tower

SHOWTIME
Dec 12 Wed 7:00pm Macao Tower

SHOWTIME
Dec 8 Sat 9:15pm Cinematheque Passion

The Special Presentation segment of IFFAM will screen seven films selected by Mike Goodridge, the festival's Artistic Director, and Jury President Chen Kaige, the famed Chinese director.

This year's line-up includes "Sink or Swim" by French director Gilles Lelouche, a comedy about the formation of a male synchronized swimming team; "Caught in the Web" by IFFAM's own Chen Kaige, a thrilling drama selected as the Chinese entry for the Best Foreign Language Oscar; "Journey to the West: The Demons Strike Back" directed by Tsui Hark; and "212 Warrior" by Indonesian director Angga Dwimas Sasongko.

Representing Macau as a special presentation is "Empire Hotel," a thriller set in one of Macau's most traditional neighborhoods by acclaimed Portuguese director Ivo M. Ferreira.

Shanghai International Film Festival highlighted as their special presentation "Lost, Found", a Chinese drama directed by Lü Yue, which revolves around a mother's search for her missing child and her discovery of the truth about the family's nanny.

"Mary Queen of Scots" is Hollywood's presentation in this category. Directed by Josie Rourke, this highly anticipated film tells the story of the conflict between Queen Elizabeth I, portrayed by Margot Robbie, and her cousin Mary Stuart played by Golden Globe winner Saoirse Ronan.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION SHOWS MACAU'S OWN 'EMPIRE HOTEL'



INDUSTRY HUB

14 filmmakers introduce their projects

The IFFAM Industry Hub is a three-day event where new professionals of the film industry get the opportunity to network with established directors and financiers. The gathering aims to promote discussions about movie making and serves as an initial encounter for new partnerships to be developed. Hosted at the Macao Cultural Centre, the main focus of the event is the IFFAM Project Market (IPM), where 14 filmmakers introduce their movie projects with hopes of bringing them to life.

Only in its third year, the IPM has proven to be a success as a vast number of movies pitched in the previous two years are now in production, including "The

Long Walk" directed by Mattie Do, "The Price of Tea" directed by Richie Mehta and "River Town" directed by Lu Chuan.

This year's lineup includes two local projects - Tracy Choi's "Lost Paradise" and Chao Koi Wang's "Wonderland" - in the midst of a truly international selection with features from Argentina, Canada, the UK, the USA and more. The IPM awards ceremony will take place on the evening of the third day.

On the second day of the Industry Hub is the Macao Forum, an afternoon where professionals of various backgrounds and cultures exchange ideas and insights on the film industry.

Although attendance in the afternoon is only possible by invitation, the general public is invited to be present for the Public Presentation where conclusions from the talks are shared. A new addition to this year's program is the Work-in-Progress presentations.

The WIP serves as a way to secure funds for projects that are already in the production stage. This inaugural program aims to help relatively new filmmakers meet with distribution agents so that opportunities might come about. This enhances IFFAM's mission of prioritizing new industry potential. The 2018 Industry Hub runs from December 9 to 11.



IFFAM FAQ

Q WHO IS PART OF THE IFFAM COMMITTEE?

A The President of the IFFAM committee is Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes. The Executive Vice Presidents are José Maria da Fonseca Tavares, Mok Ian Ian and Alvin Chau. Cheng Wai Tong, Hoi Lo Meng, Leong Chi Kin, Leong Wai Man, Melina Leong and Chen Ji Min work for the committee as Vice Presidents. The Secretary-General is Alice Azedo Augusto and the Deputy Secretary-General is Lei Sou Ian. Mike Goodridge is, for the second year, the festival's Artistic Director and Lorna Tee is the Head of Festival Management.

Q WHO ARE THE TALENT AMBASSADORS?

A For this year's IFFAM, there are three talent ambassadors. Each comes from a different cultural background to ensure the IFFAM's mission of joining together industry professionals from all around the world. Nicolas Cage, the Academy-Award winning actor, director and producer; Aaron Kwok, a Hong Kong-born actor, singer and dancer who was named Asia Pacific's most popular artist and awarded with the Hong Kong Dancer of the Year by the Hong Kong Dance Federation. Lim Yoon A (a.k.a. Yoona) is the last talent ambassador. The Korean singer is one of the most popular artists in Asia.

Q WHEN WILL TALENT AMBASSADOR NICOLAS CAGE BE PRESENT?

A Nicolas Cage, one of IFFAM's talent ambassadors will be present at the inaugural ceremony on December 8 as well as on December 9 where he will give a Masterclass. This event will be held at the Wynn Macao Grand Ballroom from 3p.m. until 4p.m. Here, Cage will talk about his over four-decade-long career while discussing groundbreaking classics and mega-budget blockbusters. Mike Goodridge, the festival's Artistic Director, will moderate. Tickets are available for sale at the Macau Retail Sales Counter on a first come, first serve basis, keeping in mind that each person is limited to two tickets.