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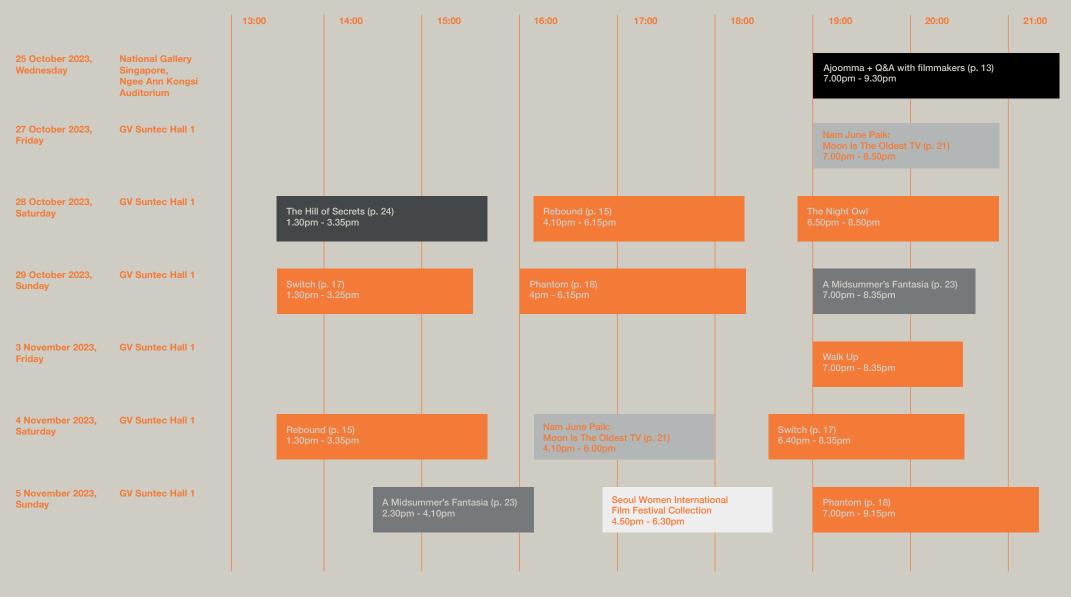
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Ticketing Information

Free Admission. Reserve your tickets via Peatix and pick up your physical ticket 30min before screening time at our registration table at GV Suntec City.*



www.singaporefilmsociety.peatix.com/view

^{*}If your ticket is not collected 15min before screening time, we may release it to waitlist or walk-ins. Seats will be given on a first-come-first-served basis.

Foreword from the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Singapore

H.E. CHOI HoonAmbassador of the Republic of Korea to Singapore



It is with great pleasure and excitement that I extend my warmest greetings to all of you at the 2023 Korean Film Festival in Singapore. This annual celebration of Korean Film has become a cherished tradition, showcasing the rich cultural tapestry and cinematic excellence of Korea to our friends here in Singapore.

This year, under the theme of 'Bridge', we selected 13 films that can showcase Korean culture and lifestyle and bridge Korea and other worlds beyond the border. This symbolizes our commitment to not only showcase exceptional Korean films but also to highlight how these cinematic creations can be conduits for cultural exchange and understanding.

Among these captivating works, I am delighted to highlight AJOOMMA, a groundbreaking film that stands as the fruit of the first-ever collaboration between Singapore and Korea. The realization of this joint venture has been truly meaningful, strengthening the bond between our two countries, through the universal language of movie.

Another remarkable highlight is the screening of the Korean-Japanese joint production, A MIDSUMMER'S FANTASIA. It proves that when nations come together, cinematic magic can unfold on-screen. As part of our endeavor to

amplify voices and perspectives, we are proud to collaborate with the Seoul International Women's Film Festival. Furthermore, we are privileged to present a documentary shedding light on the life and artistry of Nam June Paik, an international artist who has not only transcended borders with his work but has also redefined the possibilities of creative expression.

May this Korean Film Festival in Singapore not only entertain but also serve as a cultural bridge, fostering deeper mutual understanding and friendship between our nations. I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Singapore Film Society (SFS) and its partners who have worked tirelessly to make this event possible. Your dedication and support have played a crucial role in making this festival a grand success.

Welcome to the Korean Film Festival in Singapore – where cultures converge, stories unite, and the magic of cinema knows no bounds.

Thank you and 감사합니다 (Gamsahamnida).

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Foreword from the Chairman of Singapore Film Society

Kenneth TAN Chairman Singapore Film Society



Promoting movie appreciation in Singapore is a uniquely beautiful mission with which to be entrusted.

Despite the challenges and changes brought about by both the Covid-19 pandemic and the proliferation of alternative media consumption platforms to compete with Cinema, the habit of watching movies on the big screen remains very much a national way of life. And amongst the wide (and very widely-welcomed) repertoire of films released every week in more than 200 cinemas islandwide, Korean content consistently ranks high in terms of both commercial and critical accomplishments.

Some people might then wonder, why the need for so many film festivals throughout the year – sometimes as many as five within one month – and why a Korean one, when awareness and popularity are already so high?

For more than 60 years, we have been asked this type of question, as Singapore's national cultural organisation dedicated to the promotion of film appreciation. Our answer has remained simple and consistent. Movies don't just entertain or inform viewers. Movies touch people's hearts. Inspire new perspectives. Build bridges of knowledge and understanding, of curiosity and passion, of art and industry.

Cinema is about life

And although many excellent Korean films are theatrically released in mainstream cinemas in Singapore, there are so many more that richly deserve an opportunity to be made known to fans here. As well as 'landmark' productions that have earned a permanent place in the history books of both Korea and Singapore; our opening film AJOOMMA being a fine example of not just consumption but creation of movies in and by both countries working together.

It is my professional and personal joy and honour, together with my team, to have the privilege of working with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea to bring this year's Korean Film Festival to one and all. I warmly wish everyone a most fulfilling time at the movies!

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ABOUT KOREAN FILM FESTIVAL 2023

The Embassy of the Republic of Korea and Singapore Film Society are proud to host the 2023 edition of the annual Korean Film Festival (KFF), a vibrant celebration of Korean cinema and culture that serves to strengthen he bonds of friendship between Singapore and Korea. KFF is the largest Korean film festival in Singapore, or oresenting a curated selection of exceptional Korean ilms spanning various genres, from award-winning eatures and insightful documentaries to captivating animations.

As we continue to promote cultural exchange and foster greater understanding between our nations, the KFF provides a platform for Singaporean audiences to immerse themselves in the richness of Korean storytelling, artistic expression, and cinematic excellence. Through this festival, we aim to showcase the diverse and innovative talent within the Korean film industry, offering a glimpse into Korea's cinematic heritage.

OPENING FILM

Director He Shuming's debut feature is a coproduction between Singapore and Korea, and was Singapore's recent entry to the Oscars, carrying the ethos of never-too-late-to-live.

Earning a staggering 4 nominations at the prestigious Golden Horse awards, its World Premiere was at the Busan International Film Festival 2022.

AJOOMMA was the hard labour of director He Shuming — it took close to 7 years for the film to be developed from script to screen — and it does not shy from portraying the nuances of a Singapore aunty in all her colloquial relatability. It simultaneously tugs at our heartstrings as it strives to highlight the journey of finding meaning in life.

AJOOMMA is a testament to the possibilities that arise out of collaborations between countries. Most importantly, it shows the huge impact that Korean culture has on the denizens of Singapore, and globally.

AJOOMMA + Q&A 아줌마 + Q&A

In attendance for post-screening Q&A: HE Shuming (Director), HONG Huifang (Actress)

Director HE Shuming

HONG Huifang, CHUNG Dong-Hwan, KANG Hyeong-seok 2022 | Drama | 90min | NC16 Some Mature References

anguage

Screening
25 October 2023, Wednesday, 7.00pm
National Gallery Singapore



Awards

Academy Of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (Oscars) 2023
Singapore's Official Entry for Best International Feature Film

27th Busan International Film Festival 2022 Nominated for the New Currents Award

59th Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival 2022 4 Golden Horse Awards Nominations: Best Original Screenplay Best New Director Best Supporting Actor Best Leading Actress

A middle-aged, Korean-drama obsessed widow from Singapore travels out of the country for the first time to Seoul, and ends up getting lost. Her journey becomes an unexpected road of self-discovery, as she comes to terms with the life she truly wants for herself, beyond her roles as a daughter, wife and mother.

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RECENT RELEASES

REBOUND 리바운드

Director
ZHANG Hang-iun

ast -M. lae-hong

AHN Jae-hong, LEE Sin-young, JEONG Jin-woon

2023 | Sports, Drama | 122min | PG 13 Some Coarse Language

Language

Korean with English and Chinese Subtitles

Screening

28 October 2023, Saturday, 4.10pm, GV Suntec City 4 November 2023, Saturday, 1.30pm, GV Suntec City



Awards

Udine Far East Film Festival 2023 Winner Audience Award Silver Mulberry

Featuring some of the most talked-about recent Korean film releases, RECENT RELEASES consists of films that thematically span from 'whodunnit' with a period-era setting, to emotionally-charged and uplifting underdog sports drama, to internationally-acclaimed and prolific Korean director Hong Sang Soo's recent work

We have a comprehensive choice of new titles to choose from and satisfy the appetites of Korean cinema aficionados.

Yang-hyun, a former basketball player who is now a public service worker, is selected to coach Busan Jungang High School's basketball team. In one of their first matches, they face the strongest team, and their lack of teamwork causes them to forfeit. Humiliated from the loss, the team switches tactics, with Coach Yang-hyun going all in.

When everyone says it is impossible, the team of six 'nobodies' seizes the opportunity to REBOUND.

THE NIGHT OWL 올빼미

2022 | Period, Thriller | 118min | PG 13 Some Disturbing Scenes

Director AHN Tae-jin

Cast RYU Jun-yeol, YOO Hai Jin, CHOI Moo-sung Language

Korean with English and Chinese Subtitles

Screening

28 October 2023, Saturday, 6.50pm, GV Suntec City



Awards 2023 Baek Sang Art Awards Best Film Best New Director

Kyoung-su is a skilled but blind acupuncturist who can only see a little in the dark. Right after Kyoung-su joins King In-jo's medical team, the Crown Prince returns after 7-years of living in the Qing dynasty (in China). The tedious trip back home causes the Prince to fall ill, and Kyoung-su is summoned by the Royal physician to treat the Crown Prince. While Kyoung-su attends to the Crown Prince, he finds out a dark secret of King In-jo which will disrupt and shake the kingdom.

Will Kyoung-su be able to save himself and the ones he cares about?

SWITCH 스위치

Director MA Dae-vun

Cast KWON Sang-woo, OH Jung-se LEE Min-jung 2023 | Drama | 112min | PG 13 Some Coarse Language

Languag

Korean with English and Chinese Subtitles

Screening

9 October 2023, Sunday, 1,30pm, GV Suntec City

4 November 2023, Saturday, 6,40pm, GV Suntec City



Park Kang, a top scandal-maker and the most sought-after actor enjoys a lavish, single life. However, the only thing he has to embrace on Christmas Eve is his Best Actor trophy and his only friend Joe Yoon, who deals with his mess as his manager. The next morning, Park Kang wakes up in an unfamiliar house with his first love, Soo-hyun, and two children he has never seen before. On top of that, Joe Yoon has become the hottest box-office sensation instead. What kind of absurd situation is this?

The confused Park Kang suddenly remembers something that a taxi driver said the night before...

탑

Director LEE Hae-young

SEOL Kyung-Gu, LEE Ha-nee, PARK So-dam

Language

Korean with English Subtitles

Screening

29 October 2023, Sunday, 4pm, GV Suntec City 5 November 2023, Sunday, 7pm, GV Suntec City



Awards Fantasia Film Festival 2023 Nominee Cheval Noir Best Film

The year is 1933. Independence movement group's spy, PHANTOM, makes an attempt on the newly appointed Governor-General's life. Five people suspected of being the PHANTOM are locked inside a remote hotel

The story follows the desperate struggle revolving around the suspects, and the real PHANTOM's operation.

Singapore Premiere

Director HONG Sang-soo

WALK UP

Cast

KWON Hae-hyo, LEE Hye-young, SONG Sun-mi

Language

Korean with English Subtitles

Screening

3 November 2023, Friday, 7pm, GV Suntec City



Awards

San Sebastián International Film Festiva 2022 Nominee Golden Seashell Best Film

A middle-aged film director, together with his daughter whom he has not seen in years, visits a building owned by an interior designer. The designer takes them up floor by floor, room by room, to show them the renovations she has done.

Singapore Premiere

DOCUMENTARY

A retrospective of South Korean Artist Nam June Paik's work has been organised by world renowned art institutions such as Tate Modern, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam.

Nam is widely touted as a pioneer of tele-visual works and his repertoire consists of eclectic work in visual media, sculptures and drawings. He is a world-renowned artist, and his collaborations include John Cage and the avant garde art collective, Fluxus. The trailblazing artist has had a winding, unique journey, as he began with classical musical training and went on to various forms of artistic disciplines to forge an identity.

More recently in Singapore, a holistic retrospective organised by the National Gallery Singapore, titled The Future is Now, exhibited an archive of his works, highlighting how important his contribution was to the world of Arts.

Through this documentary, we hope our audience will be able to appreciate the gargantuan endeavors that artist Nam undertook and be inspired to undertake their own artistic aspirations.

NAM JUNE PAIK: MOON IS THE OLDEST TV 백남준: 달은 가장 오래된 TV

Director Amanda KIM

Cast NAM June Paik, Steven YUFN (Narrator Voice)

Language

English, German and Korean with English Subtitles

Screening

27 October 2023, Friday, 7pm, GV Suntec City 4 November 2023, Saturday, 4.10pm, GV Suntec Cit



Awards

Sundance Film Festival 2023 Nominee Grand Jury Prize Documentary

Sundance Film Festival 2023 Nominee Best International Film The International Competition

- "The George Washington of Video Art"
- 'Cultural Terrorist
- "Citizen Zero of the Electronic Superhighway"

But who was Nam June Paik really?

The pillar of the American avant-garde in the 20th century and arguably the most famous Korean artist in modern history?

Director Amanda Kim tells, for the first time, the story of Paik's meteoric rise in the New York art scene and his Nostradamus-like visions of a future in which "everybody will have his own TV channel." Thanks to social media, Paik's future is now our present, and NAM JUNE PAIK: MOON IS THE OLDEST TV shows us how we got here.

Singapore Premier

VISIONS OF NOW

filmmakers who has been developing distinctive stories in Korean Cinema. His movement is worth noting since it highlights the sensitivities of original storytelling. A MIDSUMMER'S FANTASIA emphasises cross-cultural collaboration between Korea and Japan, as it was produced by notable Japanese filmmaker Naomi Kawase and commissioned by the Nara International Film Festival (NIFF) in 2014.

A MIDSUMMER'S FANTASIA 한여름의 판타지아

Director JANG Kun-jae

KIM Sae-byuk, IWASE Ryo, LIM Hyung-kook Language

Korean with English Subtitles

Screening

29 October 2023, Sunday, 7pm, GV Suntec City 5 November 2023, Sunday, 2.30pm, GV Suntec City



Awards

Busan International Film Festival
2014 Winner Directors Guild of Korea Award

Busan Film Critics Association (BCFA) 2015 Winner Busan Film Critics Association Award Best Screenplay

A Korean film director, Kim Tae-hoon plans to shoot his new film in a small local city called Gojo, Japan. He travels with his assistant director, Park Mi-jeong to do research prior to scriptwriting.

They travel through and interview residents of several villages that are declining. However, most of the residents say there is nothing special about Gojo.

Along the way, Kim and Park meet a municipal official, Yusuke, and a middle-aged man, Kenji, and are deeply impressed by their stories. The night before director Kim is to leave Japan, he has a strange dream and wakes up in the middle of night, looking up at the night sky in Gojo.

YOUTH

THE HILL OF SECRETS 비밀의 언덕

Director

Gast MOON Seung-a, JANG Sun, LIM Sun-woo Language

Korean with English Subtitles

Screening

28 October 2023, Saturday, 1,30pm, GV Suntec City



Awards

Berlin International Film Festival
2022 Nominee Crystal Bear
Generation Kplus - Best Film
2022 Nominee GWFF Best First Feature Award

Jeonju Film Festival 2022 Winner CGV Arthouse Award Upcoming Project Prize 2022 Nominee Grand Prize Korean Film Competition

2-year-old Myung-eun is exceptionally emotionally ensitive. However, she has a secret she keeps to erself. That secret is her family, as they are not the amily she wants.

Myung-eun's teacher recognizes her talent in literature and suggests she enters a writing contest. As she learns more and more about the world through writing, her conflict with her family grows.

Under the contest's theme of 'Family', Myungeun decides to write the most honest, risky, and terrifying truth about her own family.

The complexities of growing up has spurred a whole genre of Coming-Of-Age. Understanding the world from the youths' perspective provides a unique experience and highlights how precocious adolescents can be when it comes to interacting with their environment. Directed by Lee Ji Eun, THE HILL OF SECRETS is a notable example in Korean Cinema of exceptional portrayal of A teenager's personal encounters and emotions.

Singapore Premie

SEOUL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL SHORT FILM SHOWCASE

We've always been amazed by Korean Cinema's ability to produce stunning works that have resonated with audiences all over the globe - PARASITE, HANDMAIDEN, THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE WEIRD, BURNING - and these films have been directed by prominent male directors — Bong Joon Ho to Park Chan Wook and Lee Chang Dong.

Yet, films by female directors such as Kim Bora's HOUSE OF HUMMINGBIRD, Lee Jeong-hyang's THE WAY HOME, and Ga-eun Yoon's THE WORLD OF US, have received significant acclaim as well.

This year, in order to spotlight more incredibly talented Korean female directors, we linked up with the Seoul International Women's Film Festival, which has been promoting female filmmakers' works all over the world, to screen short films by up-and-coming Korean female directors.

These short films have distinctive voices and are unique in expressing their messages and narratives. Through these short films, we hope our audience will be encouraged to discover the hidden gems of works by Korean female directors.



SEOUL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL

A GUITAR IN THE BUCKET 버킷

서울에도 오로라가뜬다

AURORA





I'M NOT A ROBOT 로봇이 아닙니다

2022 | Experimental | 21min | PG Some Nudity

Director KANG Yeso

Katie Sanomin LEI

Language

Korean with English Subtitles

Screening

5 November 2023, Sunday, 4,50pm, GV Suntec City



Seoul Women International Film Festival Collection

Awards

fficial Selection eoul International Women's Film Festival, udience Award (2022) MZ International Documentary Film Festival (20. MY ANNOYING MOTHER 2022 | Drama | 30min | NC16 Some Coarse Language 엄마 극협

Director

LEE Hye

Cast

KANG Taeie, KIM Yeongsun

Languag

Korean with English Subtitle

Screenin

5 November 2023, Sunday, 4.50pm, GV Suntec Ci



Awards
Official Selection
Seoul International Women's Film Festival (2022
Gwangju Independent Film Festival (2023)
Jeografysgin Independent Film Festival (2023)

Seoul Women International Film Festival Collection

An accident occurs in an American city with a self-driving car and a simulation expert is requested to recreate the accident.

ingapore Premiere

Singapore Premier

Ga-young loves her mom, but she struggles to love her values. Ga-young decides to film a movie about cursing

Ironically, her mother is the only one who helps with her project.

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About Organisers

The Embassy of the Republic of Korea



Singapore Film Society



The Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Singapore serves as the official diplomatic representation of the Republic of Korea in the city-state of Singapore. Committed to fostering and strengthening the bilateral relations between the two nations, the Embassy plays a pivotal role in promoting cultural, economic, and political cooperation.

With a mission to enhance mutual understanding and collaboration, the Embassy facilitates various initiatives that encompass cultural exchanges, trade partnerships, educational cooperation, and people-to-people connections. Through its multifaceted activities, the Embassy seeks to contribute to the growth of friendship and shared prosperity between the Republic of Korea and Singapore.

For more information, please visit www.overseas.mofa.go.kr/sg-en/index.do

The Singapore Film Society (SFS) is the longestestablished organiser of film festivals in Singapore. For over 60 years, SFS has conceptualised, curated, planned, programmed, marketed, and helped a wide range of event partners – such as theatrical distributors, cinema exhibitors, diplomatic missions, arts and cultural groups, charities and social service agencies – to showcase a year-round line-up of cutting edge movies from all over the world.

SFS' flagship events include our European, Japanese, and Singapore Chinese Film Festivals. We also organise national premieres, limited-session showcases, advocacy screenings, public dialogues, and so much more. SFS aims to promote film appreciation, bridge the gap between arthouse cinema and the commercial film industry, and advocate for film as an important medium for educating and sparking crucial conversations.

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



www.kft.sg

ORGANISERS





PROGRAMME PARTNERS



