

Children's Film Festival (Certificate of Merit, Adult Jury Prize); 2000 5th Isfahan Int'l Film Festival, Iran (National & Int'l Competition Section); 2000 Bourg-en-Bresse Film Festival (Mention Spéciale pour l'Originalité de la Technique) & more
For film information contact Intl_Affairs@jamejam.net

Maoz Tzur (Israel)
Amir Volansky
2000/ 16mm/ 21 min

From geriatric hospital at Hanukkah's eve, steps out an old senile lady named Lola to the place that she recalls as her home. From this moment starts a sequence of misunderstandings. Lola finds herself surrounded by good people who help her through her journey in which she finds love and new meaning in her life.

Amir Volansky:

A graduate from Camera Obscura Arts School, Amir Volansky shot "Maoz Tzur" as his final year project and received scholarships from The Second Authority for TV & Radio in Israel and from the Sahret Foundation for this film. He currently works as an independent cameraman and assistant cameraman for Israeli Television.

For film information contact Amir1969@zahav.net.il

Luang Ta (Thailand)

Pakpoom Wongpoom
2000/ Beta/ 8 min

A boy is moved to live with his father who works as a handicapped monk's servant in the temple. His father makes some money from the people's donation to the monk. The boy tries to do the right things but finds out that the world is more complicated than expected.

Pakpoom Wongpoom:

Wongpoom did this film as a student thesis project. The basis of the idea came from her personal point of view about society. She feels that telling the story through this little story in the little part of the city reflects the wide perspective of our contemporary life.

Awards/Screenings:

2001 Oberhausen Short Film Festival; 2001 Pusan Asian Short Film Festival; Thai Film Foundation (Best Thai Student Short Film); Kodak Film Competition (National Winner); 2000 Bangkok Film Festival (Best Thai Short Film & Best Director)

& more

For film information contact thaifilm@ji-net.com

Headache (Singapore)

Alaric Tay
2000/ 16mm/ 13 min

70 year-old Ah-Ma is on a diabetic medication and since the death of her husband, Ah-Kong, she has been feeling lonely and depressed. She also feels her grandchildren do not care about her. One day Ah-Kong appears before her and asks her to join him. Will Ah-Ma join him or is it all in her head?

Alaric Tay:

Alaric Tay is a budding young actor with several film and television credits including local tv series "Phua Chu Kang Pte Ltd" and "Money". In film school, Tay has shot several shorts. "Headache" is Tay's third directorial effort and is his graduation project from Ngee Ann Polytechnic (Film & Media Studies).

For film information contact email@bigfoot.com

March of Time



Special thanks to all the participating filmmakers, Wee Li Lin and Royston Tan.
SeptFest is supported by National Arts Council, Lee Foundation, Shaw Foundation, Arts Fund, Singapore Film Commission & Hotel Royal

The Substation Ltd. 45 Armenian Street, Singapore 179936. Tel: 3377 535 Fax: 337 2729
admin@substation.org.sg www.substation.org

ASIAN FILM SHOWCASE

Sep 28-30, 2001 at 8pm
The Guinness Theatre

Tickets at \$5, \$4 conc & FOS

Asian cinema has always sought to form an alliance with its various identities and cultural expressions. More and more Asian films have been breaking into several international film festivals, garnering respect and appreciation in the international filmmaking world. By showcasing several works from the region, this event aims to put the spotlight on the filmmaking talents we have here.

Some films that are showing are "Motorcycle" by Thailand's Aditya Assarat which screened at the 2001 Sundance Film Festival; "Shangoul & Mangoul" by Farkhondeh Torabi & Seyyed Morteza Ahadi Sarkani from Iran (Official Panorama at the 2000 Annecy Int'l Animation Film Festival); "Maoz Tzur" by Amir Volansky from Israel; Pakpoom Wongpoom's "Luang Ta" which won Best Thai Short Film & Best Director at the 2000 Bangkok Film Festival; and "Headache" by newcomer Alaric Tay. Acclaimed Malaysian writer turned filmmaker, Amir Muhammad, will also be discussing Malaysian cinema and the making of his first digital feature, "Lips to Lips" which screened at several festivals including the Fukuoka Asian Film Festival in July 2001.

28 September, Friday at 8pm:

Filmmakers' Talk- (30 min)

Topic: How Foreign Are Foreign Films?

Asian films are often categorised as "foreign films" or under the classification of "world cinema" in major international film festivals. As a "foreign film" it is expected to deliver something "asian", "ethnic" or "exotic". But back home, just how foreign are our films with Asian audiences? And what are the new struggles that Asian filmmakers face? How are we able to help each other create a closer network? And how can this network be fully utilised?

Moderator: Audrey Wong, Artistic Co-Director, The Substation

Panel: Adeline Kueh, Director of Studies, LaSalle SIA College of the Arts
Cheek, Filmmaker (Chicken Rice War)
Juan Foo, Film Producer (Return to Pontianak)
& guest filmmakers Amir Muhammed and Zalee Mohd (Lips to Lips);
Du Jie (22 Yuan)

Followed by a film screening of these films-

Motorcycle by Aditya Assarat (Thailand)
22 Yuan by Du Jie (China)
Hot Summer by Du Jie (China)
Shangoul & Mangoul by Farkhondeh Torabi
& Seyyed Morteza Ahadi Sarkani (Iran)



29 September, Saturday at 8pm:

Film Screening-

Maoz Tzur by Amir Volansky (Israel)
Headache by Alaric Tay (Singapore)
March of Time by Uruphong Raksasad (Thailand)
Luang Ta by Pakpoom Wongpoom (Thailand)
Lifting Day by Hiroyuki Wada (Japan)

30 September, Sunday at 8pm:

Talk-

The Making of Lips to Lips and the Development of Digital Filmmaking in Malaysia
By Director Amir Muhammed and Asst. Director/Technical Co-Director Isazaly Mohd
With trailers from other digital features - James Lee's "Snipers" and "Ah Beng" and Nam Ron's "Gedebe", a film that is currently being shot.

Film Screening-

Lips to Lips by Amir Muhammad (Malaysia)

For more information, contact The Substation at 3377 800/ 3377 535,
Email: admin@substation.org.sg

Presented by: **The Substation**
A Home for the Arts

Supported by: **LEE FOUNDATION**



HOTEL ROYAL

22 Yuan (China)

Du Jie

2001/ DV/ 5 min

One night in Beijing, a taxi driver encounters unexpected moments of excitement with a passenger.

Du Jie:

Du Jie was born in 1976 in Hebei Province, China. His fervent interest in the arts took him to the High School of the Central Academy of Art in Beijing, China in 1993, where he began studies in painting and photography. He entered the Beijing Film Academy's Department of Cinematography in 1997. *"In the hustle and bustle of the city, most people exist in a state of loneliness, lacking humor or interesting interactions with others. Through the unusual encounter in my film, I try to give people a powerful impression or memory of something."*

Awards/Screenings:

2001 Pusan Asian Short Film Festival (Asian Gaze)

For film information contact aemcnelis@hotmail.com

Hot Summer (China)

Du Jie

2000/ 16mm

One day during Beijing's hot summer, Wang Gang, a young boy, is killed by boys his age. It was seemingly just because Wang Gang refused to give them some cigarettes and money, but behind this simple reason was structural violence rooted deep inside of Chinese culture.

"The only thing that encouraged me to shoot this film was that we Chinese, especially young people, are living in a world full of invisible and indirect violence."

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For film information contact aemcnelis@hotmail.com

Lifting Day (Japan)

Hiroyuki Wada

2000/ 16mm/ 17 min

Sekikawa and Sonobe see a man falling down and die. He puts a handkerchief on his neck. Sonobe says that man tried not to die but glide. He tells a story about his friends trying to glide in the same manner when he was in college.

Hiroyuki Wada:

Wada was born in Okayama, Japan in 1973. He went on to study filmmaking at the New Cinema Workshop in Tokyo and made his first film, "Lifting Day".

Awards/Screenings:

2001 Pusan Asian Short Film Festival (Asian Gaze)

For film information contact New Cinema Workshop at ncw@tc4.so-net.ne.jp

Lips to Lips (Malaysia)

Amir Muhammad

2000/ DV/ 97 min

"Lips to Lips" is a comedy set during one day in Kuala Lumpur. There are four entwined stories and they all revolve around sex, food or accidental deaths. It is a raunchy comedy in the tradition of maverick independent movies like "Pulp Fiction" and "Clerks", but with a distinctly Malaysian flavour. As one of the characters says. "It's all a matter of appetite!"

"As far as first attempts go, director-writer Amir Muhammad goes the fearless mile by announcing his arrival with this savoury celluloid sandwich." (The Star, Malaysia, July 7, 2000)

Amir Muhammad:

Acclaimed Malaysian writer turned filmmaker, Amir was cited by Asiaweek magazine in 1999 as one of the "Leaders of the Asian Millennium (Society & Culture)", for his potential contributions to the regional arts scene. He holds a law degree with a minor in Film Studies from the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom. After graduation, Amir pursued further studies in film at New York University in 1995 and made several short films. Currently teaching at Akademi Filem Malaysia, Amir also writes a regular column for malaysiakini.com, Malaysia's first daily news site. In 1998, he co-founded Kreatif 10 sen, an arts collective with a mission to uncover new talent in the performing arts. Additionally, he has sat on the committee of both Kelab Seni Filem Malaysia and The Filmmet Equator Club, two organisations dedicated to alternative screenings in Kuala Lumpur. "Lips to Lips" is his first feature film.

Isazaly Mohd. (Zalee), Asst. Director/Technical Co-Director:

Zalee has been involved in film and television production in both Malaysia and Singapore. A former child-actor, filmmaking was a natural step to Zalee, who began acting when he was ten year old. He is graduate from LaSalle College of the Arts (Product & Graphic Design), followed by Akademi Filem Malaysia (AFM), where his student short films were well-received. He has since worked with television companies like TV3 and Astro.

Awards/Screenings:

2001 Fukuoka Asian Film Festival; 2001 Jeonju International Film Festival (Official Selection); 2001 Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film & Video Festival (Official Selection); 2000 20th Hawaii International Film Festival (Official Selection) & more

www.artsee.net/lipstolips

For film information contact Kino-I Studios Sdn Bhd at zalee@kino-i.com

Motorcycle (Thailand)

Aditya Assarat

2000/ 16mm / 14 min

The only phone in a remote village in Northern Thailand begins to ring. It's a call from the city informing grandfather Koon that his son has been killed in a motorcycle accident. Koon must now bring his son's body back to their village and ensure that he is given a proper burial. But he doesn't have enough money to do both.

Aditya Assarat:

Aditya Assarat is from Bangkok, Thailand. He received a Master's degree in Film Production from the University of Southern California. "Motorcycle" was his graduating project. He currently lives in San Francisco and is writing the feature script "Auddyha" about police corruption in Thailand.

Awards/Screenings:

2001 Sundance Film Festival; 2001 Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival; 2001 Tampere International Short Film Festival; 2001 San Francisco International Film Festival (Golden Gate Award Grand Prize); 2001 Pusan Asian Short Film Festival; 2001 Aspen Shortsfest (Special Jury Award); 2000 New York Film Festival; 2000 Palm Springs International Short Film Festival (Special Merit Award); 2000 Bangkok International Film Festival (Rachot Samer Award for Short Film)

& more

For film information contact assarat@yahoo.com

March of Time (Thailand)

Ururphong Raksasad

2000/ DV/ 19 min

This documentary emerges as a quiet observation of the old man's daily life. The film is very subtle in its treatment of natural environment and ambient sound. We see the man with various animals, birds, a dog and buffaloes, and the relationship he has with them.

Ururphong Raksasad:

Director Ururphong set on a journey to Chiangraui Province, a northernmost city of Thailand where he grew up, to capture a life that cannot be found in Bangkok. He made this personal movie to express his longing for a childhood time. He went to Srisawang Village and approached an old man named Gone, asking permission to film his life.

For film information contact thaifilm@ji-net.com

Shangoul & Mangoul (Iran)

Farkhondeh Torabi & Seyyed_Morteza Ahadi Sarkani

2000/ 35mm / 17 min 30 sec

This animated piece depicts how the world deceives the little goats and enters their home when the mother goat is out, how he eats two of them and how they are saved with the help of the little of the family.

Farkhondeh Torabi:

Born in 1965 in Tehran, she is a graduate of Psychology. She began her work in 1983 as a cinematographer and animator. She later co-directed "Together" and "Chicken in the Pond". After which she directed "Flight"(1993), "Azadeh", "Health is Happiness"(1994), "The Thirsty Crow"(1996), " The Rainbow Fish"(1998) and co-directed "Shangoul & Mangoul" in 2000.

Seyyed Morteza Ahadi Sarkani:

Born in 1963, at Serakan, he is a Microbiology Technician. He started his artistic activity in the domain of music and cinema in 1993. He began to work at Inst. for the Intellectual Development of Children & Young Adults in 1996 where he cooperated to make "A Raven Who Wanted to Be the Most Powerful " (1999) as assistant director. In May 2000, he co-directed Shangoul & Mangoul.

Awards/Screenings:

2001 Pusan Int'l Film Festival (Best Asian Film); 2001 Melbourne Film Festival (Iranian Panorama); 2000 Annecy Int'l Animation Film Festival (Official Panorama); 2000 Vancouver Int'l Film Festival; 2000 17th Chicago International