



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Asian American International Film Festival 2015  
presents a stellar group of Chinese and Chinese American Films**

**NEW YORK, June 23, 2015** – Chinese and Chinese American films have always been well represented at AAIFF and this year Asian CineVision presents a robust crop of films from popular Chinese filmmakers. Drawing on stories about growth and self-discovery to moral challenges and patriotism, this year's slate of films is fueled by passionate directors who are driven by the energy and conviction of their characters.

Highlighted by our Opening Night Presentation of Ruby Yang's MY VOICE, MY LIFE, the 2015 program features Zhang Wei's FACTORY BOSS, Daniel Lee's DRAGON BLADE and Andrew Lau's REVENGE OF THE GREEN DRAGONS among others. AAIFF 2015 will also showcase six Chinese short films included in our Made in NY, Arthouse, and LGBT programs.

**FEATURE FILMS**

**MY VOICE MY LIFE**

AAIFF 2015 raises the opening night curtains with Oscar-winning documentary filmmaker Ruby Yang's feature film MY VOICE, MY LIFE. Following a group of under-privileged Hong Kong youngsters, MY VOICE, MY LIFE is the life affirming journey of self-discovery and growth as this group of misfits undergoes six-months of rigorous training to produce a musical on stage.

**FACTORY BOSS**

Directed by Zhang Wei, is a compelling look into the heart of China's manufacturing culture. Based on Wei's personal experiences in Shenzhen, FACTORY BOSS follows the global economic effect of the rising demand for cheap Chinese labor and the social issues surrounding its labor force. With increasing competition pushing profit margins to a razor thin line, the future of not only the business, but also of the workers rest heavily on the shoulders of factory boss, Lin Dalin.

**DRAGON BLADE**

Directed by Daniel Lee and starring Jackie Chan, John Cusack and Adrien Brody is a historical East meets West action film about the fight for the silk road. Set in China during the Han dynasty (206-220 AD), DRAGON BLADE follows Huo An (Chan), a Chinese commander who is framed and enslaved for a crime he didn't commit. Crossing paths and eventually forming an

unlikely alliance with Roman soldier Lucius (Cusack), the duo band together to rebel against the corrupt Roman leader, Tiberus (Brody).

### **A YOUNG PATRIOT**

Directed by Haibin Du, A YOUNG PATRIOT documents a post-90s Chinese young man Xiao Zhao, who comes to realize that idealism cannot exist in reality. In this coming-of-age story with a focus on political identity, Xiao Zhao learns what it truly means to be patriotic to one's country in an ever-changing world.

### **少女哪吒 NEZHA**

Directed by Xiaofeng Lee, this coming-of-age drama about the complex dynamics of female teenage friendship between Wang Xiaobing and Li Xiaolu explores the growing pains of divorce, loyalty and irreverence. As the two girls quickly become best friends, their relationship drifts further apart as life inevitable takes them down different paths.

### **A SIMPLE LIFE**

A Hong Kong drama film directed by Ann Hui, starring Deanie Ip and Andy Lau (INTERNAL AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS), A SIMPLE LIFE is the story of Ah Tao, a servant for the Leung family who has looked after the household for 60 years. Now after most of the family has moved away, her responsibilities fall to Roger, a film producer and the last member of the family still living in Hong Kong. Reserved and apprehensive as their relationship may begin, it quickly blooms into a heartfelt and charming partnership after Ah Tao survives a sudden stroke.

### **REVENGE OF THE GREEN DRAGONS**

From acclaimed Director Andrew Lau and Andrew Loo, and legendary Executive Producer Martin Scorsese comes a brilliant mix between a Hong Kong action film and a New York City crime thriller, portraying the never-before-told true story of "The Green Dragons". REVENGE OF THE GREEN DRAGONS follows two immigrant brothers Sonny (Justin Chon) and Steven (Kevin Wu) who survive the impoverished despair of New York in the 1980s by joining Chinatown gang "The Green Dragons".

### **SHORT FILMS**

#### ***NYC Shorts Program***

#### **LAO WONG**

##### **Directed by Ming Zheng**

Lao Wong, a once famous Peking Opera singer in China who left it all behind to come to America. Now an ordinary nail salon owner in New York City, Lao Wong, must struggle to overcome the many obstacles that he faces for the opening of his upcoming opera show, without losing his identity.

#### ***Arthouse Shorts Program***

## **THE SEAT**

### **DONKEY RIDING**

**Directed by Simon Liu**

DONKEY RIDING provokes audience's visual experience by showing the potential of 16mm film. Liu incorporates the techniques of hand-processed film, rephotographed film and scrapbook audio recordings, exploring the rapport between home, cityscape and human interaction.

### **KARMA, China**

**Directed by Majun Chen**

An ironic tale of Hou, a cunning scheming auto mechanic, who purposefully leaves nails on the road to attract customers to his auto repair shop. But when a business savvy monk is a victim to Hou's cleverness, karma proves itself in this "what goes around comes around" short.

### **SIX DREAMS ABOUT A CITY**

**Directed by Tiger Chengliang Cai**

In this aesthetically distinct and visually provoking short, director Tiger Chengliang Cai takes us on a personal nostalgic mirage that borders on reality and dream. Exploring different topics, including politics and personal identification, SIX DREAMS ABOUT A CITY is a child's response in its transition to adulthood and coming face to the fact that reality is not a Utopia once dreamt of.

## ***LGBT Shorts Program***

### **COMING HOME**

**Directed by Steven Liang**

In spite of his mother's worry and disapproval, Jie Cheng takes a road trip with his secret boyfriend Eric (a rebellious exchange student from the U.S.) on a motorcycle. The meaning of "home" is not the same any more after they come back.

### **Festival Ticket Information**

Tickets for general admission are \$14. Tickets for seniors (65+), students and handicapped (must present valid ID) are \$12. Tickets for ACV members and Community Partners are \$10.50. Tickets will be available for purchase on the AAIFF website on Tuesday, June 23, 2015. For Opening, Centerpiece, and Closing Night Events, please check website for ticket details.

### **General Festival Information**

The Asian American International Film Festival (AAIFF) is a presentation of Asian CineVision. The festival is a celebration of inspiring Asian and Asian American works in film and video from innovative artists around the world. AAIFF 2015 takes place July 23-August 1, 2015 in Manhattan and Queens. Manhattan venues include: Cinema Village East (181-189 2nd Avenue); Asia Society (725 Park Avenue); Museum of Chinese in America (215 Centre Street); Queens venues include: Museum of the Moving Image (36-01 35th Ave, Astoria); Queens Botanical Garden (43-50 Main Street, Flushing); and Flushing Town Hall (13735 Northern Boulevard, Flushing).

**About Asian CineVision:**

Asian CineVision (ACV) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit media arts organization devoted to the development, exhibition, promotion, and preservation of Asian and Asian American film and video.

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