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Asian CineVision

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**Asian American International Film Festival 2016 Presents
SPA NIGHT as its Opening Night Presentation**

NEW YORK - The 39th Asian American International Film Festival (AAIFF), presented by Asian CineVision, is proud to present SPA NIGHT as its Opening Night Presentation.



Addressing many modern-day issues of sub-cultural identity, sexual identity, and first generation immigrants, Andrew Ahn makes his feature directorial debut with SPA NIGHT. With breathtaking performances from leads Joe Seo, Haerry Kim, and Youn Ho Cho, and beautiful cinematography, the audience is taken into the intimate lives of a family who strive for the 'American Dream.'

Like many first generation immigrants, David Cho serves as the intermediary between his parents' insular Koreatown life in Los Angeles and the frenetic landscape of the city. When the family restaurant is forced to close, the balance of the household is threatened and tension mounts at home. In an unfamiliar twist on more familiar immigrant stories, David does not accept his parents' dreams for him to pursue an education. Instead, he skips SAT prep classes to help his family make ends meet by secretly taking a job at a Korean spa. There, David finds himself suddenly exposed to the clash between traditional Korean culture and the underground world of gay hook-ups.

With a plethora of emotional, relatable motifs to the Asian-American community, SPA NIGHT turns the common coming of age story into a raw portrayal of a first generation family in detriment as desire, disillusionment, and sense of tradition overlap with one another.

SPA NIGHT had its world premiere at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival where main lead, Joe Seo, won the Special Jury Award for Breakthrough Performance. Director Andrew Ahn and lead Joe Seo will be in attendance.

SPA NIGHT will screen at **7:00 pm** at **Asia Society** on **July 21st, 2016**.

For a copy of the press kit please contact Nicole Bae at press@asiancinevision.org

To learn more about the full schedule of events, visit <http://aaiff.org/2016>.

Festival Ticket Information

Tickets for general admission are \$15. Tickets for seniors (65+), students and handicapped (must present valid ID) are \$10. Tickets for ACV members and Community Partners are \$10. Tickets are available for purchase on AAIFF's website. 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 21- July 30, 2016 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); and the Writers Guild of America (250 Hudson Street) Queens venues include: Museum of the Moving Image (36-01 35th Ave, Astoria); 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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