

Welcome This year, much has been made of the Asian American multiverse, sparked by the Daniels' surprise hit Everything Everywhere All at Once. So the fantasy goes, we in our humdrum lives may carry trauma, but in other parallel universes we may carry swords or showtunes or nations into the future. For many audiences, this was an empowering kind of mind bending: to envision ourselves as heroes, villains, lovers, weirdos. For other audiences though, we've been doing this for decades—in San Diego, for 22 years to be exact. At the San Diego Asian Film Festival, every screening beholds another fantasy of ourselves. Through door number one, stumble upon CHOSEN, a documentary about five Korean Americans running for Congress. Through door number two, behold SUBTRACTION, a juicy Hitchcockian doppelgänger drama set in Tehran. Through door number three, fall into the embrace of BROKER, the latest film by Hirokazu Kore-eda, who reminds us every few years that even when worlds are crumbling, in this universe, somewhere, there is home. For ten days this November, come indulge in the infinite. Not every door promises joy, but all promise visions of ourselves, our colleagues, and our neighbors that gatekeepers lock up the other 50 weeks of the year. Some doors even promise Michelle Yeoh! Come meet us and each other for everything, everywhere, in-person, and into the unknown. PACIFIC ARTS Address: Pacific Arts Movement, 2685 Via Excelencia, Suite 108, San Diego, CA 92126 2 Periodical Statement: San Diego Asian Film Festival, November 3-12, 2022 Issue No. 7 Published annually

Ticket Information

- · All tickets are on sale now at SDAFF.ORG.
- Tickets are also available at the UltraStar Mission Valley Cinemas concession stand and kiosk starting OCTOBER 28, 2022.

ALL-FEST PASS

PAC ARTS MEMBER: \$195 | NON-MEMBER: \$295

The best way to experience SDAFF is with an All-Fest Pass, which grants front-of-the-line access to all films, events, and receptions!

| | NON-MEMBER | PAC ARTS MEMBER |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| GENERAL ADMISSION* | \$ 12 | \$ 9 |
| OPENING / CLOSING FILMS | \$ 28 | \$ 21 |
| CENTERPIECE FILM | \$ 16 | \$ 12 |
| FESTIVAL 6-PACK* | \$ 60 | _ |

^{*}Not valid for Opening/Centerpiece/Closing films.

- SDAFF will call opens 1 hour before showtime.
- · All ticket sales are final.

DISCOUNTS

STUDENT | SENIOR | MILITARY | SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY: \$ 10

Student, senior, military, and San Diego Public Library tickets can be purchased at the door with a valid ID. Not valid for Opening/Closing films.

GROUP TICKETS: Minimum of 10 tickets per screening. Email zia@pacarts.org for more information.

FREE SCREENING

FREE FILMS AT 4

All films at 4:00PM on festival weekdays are FREE.

REEL VOICES

SUN | NOV 6 | NOON (SEE PAGE 30)
World premiere of our high school
documentary program, FREE to the public.

TAIWAN SHOWCASE

AT UCSD (SEE PAGE 31)

All films at the UCSD Price Center Theater are FREE for UCSD students, faculty, and staff with valid ID.

PAC ARTS MEMBER SCREENING AND RECEPTION

MON | NOV 7 | 6:30PM (SEE PAGE 14)
The screening of 80 YEARS LATER is FREE for Pac Arts members. To receive your free member ticket, please visit the UltraStar ticketing/concession stand on November 7.
Members will also be able to redeem their free ticket(s) online by using the code found in the general membership e-newsletter. For assistance, email membership@pacarts.org.







SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Opening and Closing Night | Nov 3 & 11 1788 El Prado, San Diego, CA 92101



ULTRASTAR MISSION VALLEY

Main Venue | Nov 4-9 7510 Hazard Center Dr #100, San Diego, CA 92108



UCSD PRICE CENTER THEATER

Taiwan Showcase | Nov 5-6 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093



MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS

MOPA Days | Nov 10-12 1649 El Prado, San Diego, CA 92101

COVID PROTOCOLS

- We strongly encourage all attendees to be current on all COVID-19 vaccinations and to test before and during the festival.
- Masking is highly recommended in all theater and lobby spaces.
- Please practice social distancing when possible.

Questions: info@sdaff.org

Schedule

| THU 17:00PM | NOV 3 NAT OPENING NIGHT: BAD AXE | 3:00PM | REMEMBER ME UCSD TAIWAN SHOWCASE 85 MIN / PAGE 23 | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | 102 MIN / PAGE 10 | 3:05PM | THERAPY DOGS 88 MIN / PAGE 15 |
| | FRI NO 4:00PM | | 3:15PM | SHORTS: DISCOMFORT FOOD 102 MIN / PAGE 25 |
| | 5:10PM | MILLIE LIES LOW 100 MIN / PAGE 18 | 4:55PM | SHORTS: TO LIVE AND DIE IN TAIPEI TAIWAN SHOWCASE |
| | 5:45PM | THE NOVELIST'S FILM 92 MIN / PAGE 20 | E-OEDM | 75 MIN / PAGE 31 |
| | OCEAN CITY MONSTER BUILDING | 5:05PM | SHORTS: GENERATION QUEER 95 MIN / PAGE 27 | |
| | | 90 MIN / PAGE 15 | 5:20PM | MAMA'S AFFAIR 127 MIN / PAGE 18 |
| | 6:30PM | SEPTET: THE STORY OF HONG KONG 112 MIN / PAGE 20 | 5:30PM | DECOUPLING 83 MIN / PAGE 14 |
| | 7:20PM | NURSE UNSEEN 93 MIN / PAGE 13 | 5:55PM | SHORTS: INT. ECHOPLEX 87 MIN / PAGE 28 |
| | 7:55PM | BEFORE, NOW & THEN 103 MIN / PAGE 20 | 7:40PM | BLUE ISLAND 97 MIN / PAGE 22 |
| | 8:45PM | MYANMAR DIARIES 70 MIN / PAGE 23 | 7:50PM | THE FISH TALE 139 MIN / PAGE 17 |
| | 8:55PM | WE ARE STILL HERE 90 MIN / PAGE 19 | 8:00PM | BROKER 129 MIN / PAGE 20 |
| | 9:50PM | MYSTERY KUNG FU THEATRE | 8:10PM | DECLARATION 107 MIN / PAGE 16 |
| SAT NOV 5 ULTRA | | | | |
| | 12:10PM | TOO COOL TO KILL 109 MIN / PAGE 19 | - | NOV 6 ULTRA REEL VOICES |
| | | | | |

| 9:50PM | MYSTERY KUNG FU THEATRE |
|---------|---|
| SAT N | OV 5 ULTRA |
| 12:10PM | TOO COOL TO KILL 109 MIN / PAGE 19 |
| 12:20PM | THE HILL OF SECRETS 122 MIN / PAGE 22 |
| 12:30PM | THE NARROW ROAD 115 MIN / PAGE 18 |
| 12:40PM | SHORTS: PRESSURE POINTS 92 MIN / PAGE 30 |
| 1:00PM | GIRL'S SCHOOL UCSD TAIWAN SHOWCASE 91 MIN / PAGE 24 |
| 2:30PM | LIQUOR STORE DREAMS 99 MIN / PAGE 15 |

MILLIE LIES LOW 100 MIN / PAGE 18

2:55PM

| JUN | NOV 6 ULIKA |
|---------|---|
| 12:00PM | REEL VOICES 120 MIN / PAGE 30 |
| 12:20PM | A CONFUCIAN CONFUSION TAIWAN SHOWCASE 128 MIN / PAGE 24 |

12:30PM SHORTS: FOR THE RECORD 94 MIN / PAGE 27

12:40PM STONEWALLING 147 MIN / PAGE 23

12:50PM AND STILL I SING 90 MIN / PAGE 16

2:30PM CHOSEN 110 MIN / PAGE 14

Schedule

SUN | NOV 6 (CONT.) ULTRA

3:00PM MAMA BOY UCSD

TAIWAN SHOWCASE 98 MIN / PAGE 17

SHORTS: NOWHERE, FOREVER 3:15PM

90 MIN / PAGE 29

3:30PM BLUE ISLAND 97 MIN / PAGE 22

3:40PM SUBTRACTION

107 MIN / PAGE 19

5:30PM CENTERPIECE: WISDOM

GONE WILD 84 MIN / PAGE 11

5:40PM GAGA UCSD

TAIWAN SHOWCASE 112 MIN / PAGE 17

6:00PM WALK UP 97 MIN / PAGE 21

SHORTS: MAKING IT 7:35PM

96 MIN / PAGE 29

7:45PM GYEONG-AH'S DAUGHTER

117 MIN / PAGE 22

7:55PM LESSON IN MURDER

128 MIN / PAGE 17

THE HEROIC TRIO 8:10PM

83 MIN / PAGE 24

MON | NOV 7 ULTRA

4:00PM SHORTS: DUTY FREE

94 MIN / PAGE 25

5:50PM GAGA

112 MIN / PAGE 17

6:20PM STELLAR: A MAGICAL RIDE

98 MIN / PAGE 18

6:30PM 80 YEARS LATER

66 MIN / PAGE 14

BROKER 6:45PM

129 MIN / PAGE 20

8:15PM DECLARATION

107 MIN / PAGE 16

8:35PM THE NOVELIST'S FILM

92 MIN / PAGE 20

8:55PM DETECTIVE VS. SLEUTHS

101 MIN / PAGE 16

TUE | NOV 8 ULTRA

4:00PM SHORTS: ELSEWHERE,

WITHIN HERE

100 MIN / PAGE 26

5:20PM TBA

6:10PM CROSSINGS

94 MIN / PAGE 14

6:20PM STELLAR: A MAGICAL RIDE

98 MIN / PAGE 18

6:35PM WHEN THE WAVES ARE GONE

187 MIN / PAGE 21

7:55PM FAST & FEEL LOVE

132 MIN / PAGE 16

8:30PM WE ARE STILL HERE

90 MIN / PAGE 19

8:40PM LESSON IN MURDER

128 MIN / PAGE 17

WED | NOV 9 ULTRA

4:00PM SHORTS: EXT. SENSORIUM

87 MIN / PAGE 26

5:30PM TBA

6:00PM WALK UP

97 MIN / PAGE 21

6:10PM MAMA'S AFFAIR

127 MIN / PAGE 18

6:20PM DETECTIVE VS. SLEUTHS

101 MIN / PAGE 16

7:50PM WHAT ABOUT CHINA?

135 MIN / PAGE 21

8:05PM THE FISH TALE

139 MIN / PAGE 17

EXECUTIONERS 8:30PM

97 MIN / PAGE 24

8:45PM TBA

THU | NOV 10 MOPA

5:30PM TOO COOL TO KILL

109 MIN / PAGE 19

7:50PM SHOEBOX

96 MIN / PAGE 23

FRI | NOV 11 MOPA

12:30PM THE HILL OF SECRETS

122 MIN / PAGE 22

2:50PM A CONFUCIAN CONFUSION

128 MIN / PAGE 24

5:30PM ALL THAT BREATHES

88 MIN / PAGE 22

CLOSING NIGHT: RICEBOY SLEEPS 7:15PM

117 MIN / PAGE 12

SAT | NOV 12 MOPA

12:30PM BEFORE, NOW & THEN

103 MIN / PAGE 20

2:40PM THE NARROW ROAD 115 MIN / PAGE 18

5:00PM SUBTRACTION

107 MIN / PAGE 19

FOUR SAMOSAS 7:20PM

80 MIN / PAGE 15











Special Presentations

OPENING NIGHT



BAD AXE

DAVID SIEV | USA | 2022 | 102 MIN

David Siev and his siblings grew up in Bad Axe, Michigan, home of two main stoplights, cornfields, and his family's restaurant. When the pandemic hit, they all moved back home to help their parents navigate their COVID-era business. Forever a filmmaker, David keeps his camera on sisters looking out for family safety, a father reminded of the killing fields he escaped, and a conservative community with much to say about a Cambodian Mexican family speaking out during Black Lives Matter protests. As inspiring and emotional a portrait of 2020 as any, the award-winning BAD AXE is a tribute to immigrant families, their businesses, and the love that keeps them going.

Admission includes pre- and post-screening receptions.



CENTERPIECE



WISDOM GONE WILD

REA TAJIRI | USA | 2022 | 84 MIN

In this masterwork of a career-long investigation into collective memory, Rea Tajiri (*Strawberry Fields*) partners with her mother, Rose Tajiri Noda, diagnosed with dementia at the age of 76. A duet of both care and creation, WISDOM GONE WILD chronicles Rose's transformation of self while sprawling across time, as Rose's memories emerge from everyday encounters, songs, and anxieties. A family history comes into focus: of Japanese farmers in the Salinas strawberry fields, of WWII concentration camp survivors and their children, of an archive co-created by a family of artists. Moving to the beat of Rose's "heart radio," WISDOM GONE WILD redefines memory as a time-traveling, interdimensional, intergenerational dialogue, as Rose holds space for her ancestors and children to speak.

Admission includes post-screening reception.



Special Presentations

CLOSING NIGHT



RICEBOY SLEEPS

ANTHONY SHIM | CANADA | 2022 | 117 MIN

In Anthony Shim's emotionally layered second feature, RICEBOY SLEEPS, So-young and her young son Dong-hyun leave behind family tragedy in South Korea for a new life—and new dreams—in Canada. Encountering the isolation and alienation of being outsiders in a strange country, a distance grows between them. "A man can only cry three times in his life," So-young declares at one point, refusing to acquiesce to the "polite" racism they constantly encounter. "Once when he is born, once when his mom dies, and once when his father dies." Richly detailed performances from Choi Seung-yoon and Ethan Hwang illuminate the tense and tender bond between mother and child.

Admission includes pre- and post-screening receptions.



SNEAK PREVIEW



NURSE UNSEEN

MICHELE JOSUE | USA | 2023 | 93 MIN

Invisible yet ever-present, anonymous yet indispensable. For over six decades, Filipino nurses have been at the frontlines of the American medical establishment, but their stories remain in the background. Emmy-winning director Michele Josue fills in this critical history and questions the human costs of indifference. Tracing a story that begins with U.S. imperialism in the Philippines, and arriving at the COVID-19 pandemic, when Filipino American nurses disproportionately succumbed to the disease, NURSE UNSEEN centers nurses, Filipinos, and women in a powerful chronicle of sacrifice and healing.



Pata Covata Covata Covata Cara

Asian American Panorama

The heart of our festival—and the best of Asian American cinema in all of its colors—from stories of activism. love, and legacy, to tales of woe and humor.



CELINE PARREÑAS SHIMIZU I USA I 2022 | 50 MIN

Eighty years following the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII, two cousins who were interned during the war discuss its lingering effects. Filmmaker Celine Parreñas Shimizu's second feature delicately interrogates the ways in which we confront history and inherited trauma.

PRECEDED BY: SINCERELY MINÉ OKUBO YUKA MURAKAMI | USA | 2022 | 16 MIN



JOSEPH JUHN | USA, SOUTH KOREA | 2022 |

In 2020, for the first time ever, five Korean Americans ran for U.S. Congress in the same year. Meet David Kim, a young LGBTQ progressive in Koreatown, Los Angeles; Marilyn Strickland, a Black Korean centrist Democrat in Tacoma, WA; Young Kim and Michelle Park Steel, Republicans in Orange County; and New Jersey Democratic incumbent Andy Kim.

PRECEDED BY: MINK! BEN PROUDFOOT | USA | 2022 | 21 MIN



RAVI KAPOOR | USA | 2022 | 80 MIN

Executing a heist of the local cash & carry with three hair-brained conspirators so you can steal your ex-girlfriend's dowry before she marries a dweeb—what could possibly go wrong? Miss India America director Ravi Kapoor spins such a caper as a stylish Little India Bottle Rocket, with a poppin' cast of lovable comedic talents.



SO YUN UM | USA | 2022 | 85 MIN

In her documentary feature debut, filmmaker So Yun Um knits her identity as a "liquor store baby" with the fraught history of Korean-run liquor stores in Los Angeles. Through a deeply personal exploration of tensions between Black and Korean communities, So offers a loving portrait of intergenerational healing.

PRECEDED BY: J&S AUTO GRACE JUNG | USA | 2022 | 14 MIN



DEANN BORSHAY LIEM | USA | 2021 | **94 MIN**

Veteran documentarian Deann Borshey Liem (First Person Plural) joins a group of 30 women who dare to walk across the DMZ—an invisible line separating North and South Korea and the most militarized border in the world. Their simple plan triggers a media storm, fraught brinkmanship, and a fascinating look at the geopolitical and personal consequences of symbolic acts.



DECOUPLING

YINAN WANG | USA, CHINA | 2022 | 83 MIN

After the birth of their daughter, Chinese international students Yinan and Yujing decide to have their 11-month-old baby travel to China with her grandparents. Little did they know that a pandemic would soon strike. U.S.-China relations would worsen, and they would be stranded in Wisconsin, parenting from afar and filming a most unusual COVID time capsule.



OCEAN CITY MONSTER BUILDING

CHRIS LANE | USA | 2022 | 90 MIN

Bucking the trend of glossy true crime, director Chris Lane applies a raw and surreal technique to this story of murder in 1984 upstate New York. As investigator Aida Pierre begins poking around the deaths of a former mayor and a 15-year-old girl, she opens wounds and rifts in an already on-edge community.

6:20PM



ETHAN ENG | CANADA | 2022 | 83 MIN

From the youngest filmmaker to premiere at Slamdance, THERAPY DOGS is an electrifying feature shot undercover as a "yearbook" video. Adrenaline and angst fuel two giddily miserable best friends who film their last year at a Canadian high school with nary an adult in sight. Terrifying antics and promposals at a strip club prove "bad decisions are better with friends."

PRECEDED BY: W(HO) CANDACE HO | USA | 2022 | 5 MIN

14 15

5:30PM

Asia Pop!



What happens when singing becomes forbidden? Two women on an Afghan TV singing competition hope to defy the odds with a first-ever female winner. As they ride the rollercoaster of rehearsals, hate mail, and possible victory, the Taliban takeover in 2021 upends life as they know it. Starring the magnificent and controversial popicon Aryana Sayeed.



Mahesh Narayanan's Malayalam-language drama follows a woman from Kerala working with her husband in a glove factory near New Delhi. Hoping for a brighter future abroad, but set back by an illicitly captured phone video, Reshmi must overcome the misogynistic forces that threaten her fate.

Films out of Asia that make you laugh, cry, and cheer, featuring international icons, films within films, and new leases on life.



Loosely based on the life of celebrity marine biologist Sakana-kun, THE FISH TALE follows Meebo, who pursues a childhood dream of becoming a fish expert. High style with splashes of the surreal, the film is an homage to sea life, otherworldly and enchanting, much like Meebo.



Eldest brother's decision to run for local office hits a snag when an unexpected pregnancy rocks his family and threatens to become the talk of town. GAGA is an affable domestic comedy about protecting one's ancestral land, maintaining tradition across generations, and standing up for family, directed by Taiwan's first female indigenous filmmaker.



Bodies litter the streets, and they all turn out to be suspects from cold cases abandoned long ago. Who would have the inside track to "solve" these old murders? And what do they have to do with the mysterious Lee, a former top cop now cast off as a madman in the streets? Johnnie To collaborator Wai Ka Fai unleashes pyrotechnics and histrionics in this over-the-top action thriller.



NAWAPOL THAMRONGRATTANARIT | THAILAND | 2022 | 132 MIN

In the sport of speed stacking, Kao is king. Thanks to his razor-sharp precision, obsessive work ethic, and supportive girlfriend Jay, he's now the world's fastest. But Jay's had enough of being treated like the house butler, and when she bails, Kao must learn to do his own damn chores, train to defeat incoming competitors, and get his life priorities straight.



College student Masaya receives a letter that disturbs and tantalizes him. It's from a famous serial killer, now in prison, but once a kind baker at a shop Masaya frequented as a teen. Masaya is tempted enough to visit the killer, who asks Masaya for an unusual favor. With shades of *Silence of the Lambs*, LESSON IN MURDER is a twisted game of power plays and unearthed secrets.



The cute but awkward Hong can't be forced into love. Not by his mom who tries to set him up on blind dates. Not by his cousin who thinks the ladies of the sex motel are the answer. But when Hong develops the most innocent crush on a brothel madame twice his age, suddenly his friends and family have second thoughts on him finding love.

Asia Pop!

NOV 5:20PM WED NOV 09 **MAMA'S AFFAIR** 6:10PM **KEAREN PANG | HONG KONG | 2022 |** 127 MIN

> Before marriage and motherhood, Mei-fung was a starmaker: a talent manager with an ear for hits and an eye for new idols. Now that her son is entering adulthood and her husband has exited fidelity, Mei-fung decides to stage a comeback, especially when she stumbles upon a teenager with an enchanting voice and pop star potential.



En route to a prestigious internship in New York, Millie has a panic attack and ditches her flight. Stranded and low on funds, she must figure out food, shelter, and how to get a new ticket, all without letting anyone know she hasn't actually left. That's okay—Millie has a cellphone, a suitcase, and a talent for lying.

SUN NOV 06 3:40PM SAT NOV 12

films within films, and new leases on life.

Films out of Asia that make you laugh, cry, and cheer, featuring international icons,

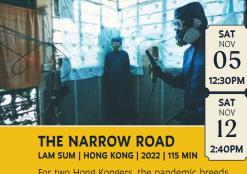
5:00PM

SUBTRACTION MANI HAGHIGHI | IRAN, FRANCE | 2022 | 107 MIN

Farzaneh swears she sees her husband on a bus. She secretly follows him to his destination: an apartment building where she suspects he's having an affair. Was it him, or was she, as her doctor suggests, having pregnancy hallucinations? Director Mani Haghighi spins a Hitchcockian urban thriller of what-ifs and doppelgängers, a story of cosmic proportions dressed up as a juicy marital drama.



In this movie-in-a-movie comedy, a background actor with thespian dreams accepts the role of a lifetime: hitman in a gangster film, co-starring the top big-screen starlet. Little does he know that there is no film in the camera, the bullets are real. and the movie villain is an actual mob target he's being conned to kill.



For two Hong Kongers, the pandemic breeds opportunity. For Chak, it's turning his cleaning business into a disinfection service. For Candy, getting a job as Chak's right hand means food on the table for her 7-year-old. As partners, they teeter on the narrow road to happiness—on one side the desire to outplay destiny's cruel hand, on the other side the unexpected prospect of love.



KWON SOO-KYUNG | SOUTH KOREA | 2022 | 98 MIN

When a sports car under his watch disappears, Young-bae finds himself on the run from gangsters. Or more like on the crawl. All he has is his late father's busted ol' jalopy, which, it turns out, has more in the tank than meets the eye. It's the fast vs. the fantastic in this action comedy with a fresh dose of the fanciful.



BECK COLE, SAMUEL NUGGIN-PAYNTER, DANIELLE MACLEAN, DENA CURTIS, TIM WORRALL, RICHARD **CURTIS, MIKI MAGASIVA, MARIO GAOA, CHANTELLE BURGOYNE, TIRAROA REWETI, TRACEY RIGNEY, RENAE** MAIHI | AUSTRALIA, AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND | 2022

In this bold collection of eight interwoven stories of Indigenous resistance, filmmakers in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand take on the historical epic, the war film, and science fiction to tackle apocalypses past and present.

Masters

Fresh from Berlin, Cannes, and other prestigious international film festivals, these are premiere works by the world's best directors.



During the political upheaval of 1960s Indonesia, Nana loses the man she loves. While he continues to linger in her dreams and memories, Nana settles down with a wealthy new husband, in whose home she finds an unlikely confidant. Kamila Andini (*Yuni*) returns with a ravishing, award-winning drama of period lore, unfinished romance, and secrets passed between women.



SAT

05

8:00PN

MON

NOV

07

6:45PM

BROKER

HIROKAZU KORE-EDA | SOUTH KOREA | 2022 | 129 MIN

A young woman leaves her baby at a church drop box, which turns out to be an intake for child traffickers. In a playful turn of events, she goes on the road with the bumbling baby brokers as they find her unwanted child a new home, while cops tail their every move. Kore-eda (Shoplifters, SDAFF '18) crafts a tender, comic drama of unexpected families on the edges of the law.



HONG SANG-SOO | SOUTH KOREA | 2022 | 97 MIN

Hong Sang-soo has a way of making life seem like a never-ending series of rhythms and reverberations. This can be both an intoxicating and maddening notion, which is exactly the strange formal dichotomy his new film WALK UP considers. A famous film director visits an old friend (or flame?), only to find his present and future permanently altered.



RINH I. MINH-HA | USA, CHINA | 2022 | 135 MIN

Trinh T. Minh-ha (Surname Viet Given Name Nam) revisits footage shot in rural China in 1993, reframed against the industrialization and urbanization of the past thirty years. Sprawling and sonically mesmerizing, WHAT ABOUT CHINA?'s citational poetics probe China's contradicting representations, histories, and futures.



HONG SANG-SOO | SOUTH KOREA | 2022 | 92 MIN

Spurned by filmmaking years ago, a novelist later in her life is re-seduced by the form—with all the drinking, awkwardness, and charm you'd expect from a seduction. A bewitching Lee Hye-young joins Hong Sang-soo all-stars Kwon Hae-hyo and Kim Min-hee in a beautiful, disarmingly simple reconsideration of cinema.



SAMMO HUNG, ANN HUI, PATRICK TAM, YUEN WOO-PING, JOHNNIE TO, RINGO LAM, TSUI HARK | HONG KONG | 2020 | 112 MIN

Seven short films directed by a dream team of Hong Kong legends, SEPTET takes us through the decades, from coming-of-age as students in the 1950s and 60s, to finding one's bearings in the uncertain years that followed. SEPTET is a sentimental tribute to a city, its history, its people, and its moviemaking legacy.



LAV DIAZ | PHILIPPINES, FRANCE, DENMARK PORTUGAL | 2022 | 187 MIN

It's cop vs. cop in Lav Diaz's latest: a dark, protracted tale of vengeance and crushing cycles of violence. Hermes is a top investigator, so principled that he once sent his own teacher to prison. Now, the atrocities he's witnessed and perpetuated are literally mangling his flesh, and a ghost from his past returns with a taste for blood.

Unknown Pleasures

From Asia's most innovative and uncategorizable filmmakers come new stories and new ways of telling them.



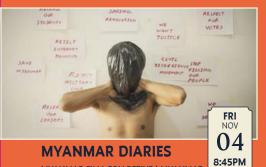
Two Muslim brothers struggle to maintain their sanctuary for birds in smog-filled Delhi, facing financial difficulties and a looming backdrop of government-sanctioned Hindu nationalism.

Winner of the L'Œil d'or at the 2022 Cannes Film



CHAN TZE WOON | HONG KONG, TAIWAN, JAPAN 2022 | 97 MIN

Through a mix of interviews, archival footage, and reenactment, recent protests for self-determination are knitted into Hong Kong's longer history of political action. Beyond simplistic cries for Hong Kong identity, BLUE ISLAND conjures a forgotten history to explore the cultural contradictions, intergenerational resonances, and passions for freedom that remain insuppressible.



MYANMAR FILM COLLECTIVE | MYANMAR, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY | 2022 | 70 MIN

In 2021, a Burmese woman livestreams a workout class, inadvertently documenting the moments the military overthrows its civilian government behind her. From the anonymous Myanmar Film Collective, MYANMAR DIARIES is a remarkable blend of citizen journalist footage and fictional enactments of everyday life, a portrait of hope and resistance under the new, brutal military dictatorship.



HUNG CHUN-HSIU | TAIWAN | 2022 | 85 MIN

Just off the coast of China is Kinmen, a heavily-fortified set of islands governed from afar by Taiwan. A remnant of Taiwan's past aspirations to "take back the mainland," Kinmen may now be best known as a tourist curiosity. But REMEMBER ME introduces us to folks who live there, perpetually in the shadow of war: a photographer of soldiers and a tour guide with a secret identity.



KIM JUNG-EUN | SOUTH KOREA | 2022 | 117 MIN

When Yeon-su spurns her ex-boyfriend's advances one last time, he retaliates by texting their sex video to all of her loved ones—including her mother, who did not even know she was in a relationship. Yeon-su is sent into hiding, reconnecting with a mother who has secrets of her own.



LEE JI-EUN | SOUTH KOREA | 2022 | 122 MIN

Determined to be better than her crude, tightfisted family, 12-year-old Myung-eun decides to run for class president and enter a series of writing contests—all while lying about where she comes from. When her ambition requires her to hurt her family, she must make a difficult choice.



FARAZ ALI | INDIA | 2021 | 96 MIN

A daughter returns home to care for her ailing father, when the independent theater that he's run for decades is threatened to be shut down by a power-hungry politician's development project. A solemn film about the things we hold onto amidst contemporary society's rapid changes.



SUN

NOV

06

12:40PM

STONEWALLING

HUANG JI, RYUJI OTSUKA | JAPAN | 2022 | 147 MIN

Lynn has big plans for learning English and becoming a flight attendant. Having a baby with her unreliable boyfriend is not what she had in mind. An opportunity emerges to relinquish her unwanted baby while saving her mother's troubled business, but the market for human life is never as it seems.

Classics Restored

Out of the archives, rewriting the lineage of Asian cinema.



EDWARD YANG | TAIWAN | 1994 | 128 MIN

Taiwanese filmmaker Edward Yang skewers modern Taipei culture through a satirical lens with A CONFUCIAN CONFUSION, rarely seen since its premiere at the 1994 Cannes Film Festival. Like so many Yang films, it's a witty, nuanced, and cutting piece that deals with the anxieties of tradition, corporate greed, and pervasive mass media through an ensemble of self-absorbed twentysomethings.



From one of Taiwan's pioneering women directors comes the high school drama of Chih-Ting and Chia-Lin, best friends and maybe more, stirring rumors in class that they might be lesbians. Straddling the romantic buoyancy of 1970s melodramas and the gentle naturalism of the Taiwan New Cinema to come, GIRL'S SCHOOL is a stunning time capsule of queerness in a society in transition.



JOHNNIE TO | HONG KONG | 1993 | **83 MIN**

Icons Michelle Yeoh, Maggie Cheung, and Anita Mui put the X in latex in this newly restored, quintessentially gonzo Hong Kong 90s blockbuster from a young Johnnie To. Kung fu mayhem, flying motorcycles, maniacal laughter, baby-nappers, baby-cannibals, and a whole lot more thrill in this triumph of the superheroines.



EXECUTIONERS

JOHNNIE TO, CHING SIU-TUNG | HONG KONG | 1993 | 97 MIN

Made right on the heels of The Heroic Trio, EXECUTIONERS reunites the whole gang of glamorous superheroines Michelle Yeoh, Maggie Cheung, and Anita Mui. With a distinctly darker, high-90s-Terminator aesthetic, this rarity feels like it could only exist on a bootleg VHS, but we have it in beautifully restored 4K.

Shorts

DISCOMFORT FOOD (102 MIN)

Featuring uncontrollable itching, canker sores, and bread broken with a side of disquiet, films that spice up the trope of food as a love language.

SAME OLD

LLOYD LEE CHOI | USA, CANADA | 2022 | 15 MIN

SHALLOTS AND GARLIC

ANDREA NIRMALA WIDJAJANTO | CANADA, INDONESIA | 2022 | 17 MIN

THE BALCONY

ANYA MARTIN | USA | 2022 | 6 MIN

CANKER

LIN TU | CHINA | 2022 | 13 MIN

MANEKI

BRANDON OKUMURA | USA | 2022 | 13 MIN

ESTHER & SAI

ROSIE CHOO PIDCOCK, ANAÏSA VISSER | CANADA | 2021 | **13 MIN**

LUNCHBOX

ANNE HU | USA | 2022 | 16 MIN

PARALLEL

ROSANNA LEE | UK | 2022 | 9 MIN

DUTY FREE (94 MIN)

An eclectic mix of liminal and liberatory stories, starring a caretaker of corpses, anarchic animations, and stranded translators.

LABORATORY NO. 2

EDRIS ABDI, AWARE OMER | KURDISTAN | 2021 | 16 MIN

TEHURA

WEI LI | CANADA, TAHITI | 2022 | 13 MIN

ALLIWANT IS EVERYTHING ALEXANDRA CUERDO | USA | 2022 | 17 MIN

IN THE BIG YARD INSIDE THE TEENY-WEENY POCKET

YOKO YUKI | JAPAN | 2022 | 6 MIN

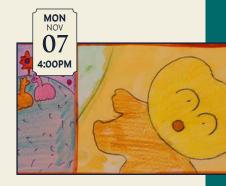
DID IT HURT?

NATHAN CARREON LIM | THAILAND | 2022 | 24 MIN

SAPPLIKEL

CHUN WANG, HIKKY CHEN | TAIWAN | 2022 | 18 MIN





24 25

8:30PM

Shorts



ELSEWHERE, WITHIN HERE (100 MIN)

Films about boundaries, borders, beginnings, and endings, and living in the elsewhen in the here and now.

IN LIVING MEMORY Quyên nguyen-le | USA | 2021 | 11 MIN

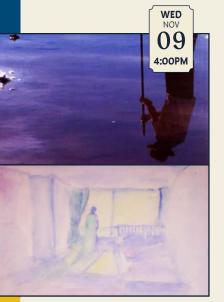
ONLY THE MOON STANDS STILL JOHNSON CHENG | USA | 2021 | 22 MIN

INTO THE VIOLET BELLY

THUY-HAN NGUYEN-CHI | BELGIUM, DENMARK, GERMANY, ICELAND, MALTA | 2022 | 20 MIN

FUTILITY SEASON HODA SOBHANI | USA | 2021 | 23 MIN

FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY POLEN LY | CAMBODIA | 2022 | 24 MIN



EXT. SENSORIUM (87 MIN)

Sonically spiritual, tender to the touch, or #ASMRAF, these shorts use the force of sound to mesmerize, lull, and transport their viewer to other realms of the heart and imagination.

BIRTHDAY SONG ERICA SHEU | USA | 2022 | 4 MIN

THE WIND CARRIES US HOME UDVAL ALTANGEREL | MONGOLIA, USA | 2022 | 11 MIN

A PLACE IN BLUE SEUNG EON YI | SOUTH KOREA, USA | 2022 | 9 MIN

PRETEND YOU'RE THERE KATIE COLOSIMO | USA | 2021 | 2 MIN

DUST IN THE WIND ZHISHUI LIN | CHINA | 2022 | 15 MIN

SOFT SOUNDS OF PEELING FRUIT SO YOUNG SHELLY YO | USA | 2021 | 14 MIN

BLUE GARDEN
NATALIE MURAO | CANADA | 2022 | 5 MIN

INSTANT LIFE ANDREW KIM, ANJA DORNIEDEN, JUAN DAVID GONZALEZ MONROY | USA, GERMANY | 2021 | 27 MIN

Shorts

FOR THE RECORD (94 MIN)

Urgent and timely entries to the historical record, making the once insensible sensible, the invisible visible, and the unknown known.

DEAR CORKY CURTIS CHIN | USA | 2022 | 17 MIN

IN LOVING MEMORY (OF WHO WE USED TO BE)

VICKY LEE | USA | 2021 | 8 MIN

GENERATION IMPACT: THE SCIENTIST STEPHANIE WANG-BREAL | USA | 2022 | 8 MIN

DONUT KID MICHELLE THACH | USA | 2022 | 9 MIN

ILOVE YOU, YOUR KAMO ISAAC KAU | USA | 2022 | 6 MIN

LAST HAWAIIAN SUGAR DÉJÀ CRESENCIA BERNHARD | USA | 2022 | 22 MIN

MAY WE KNOW OUR OWN STRENGTH JIH-E PENG | USA | 2022 | 6 MIN

MURDER TONGUE
ALI SOHAIL JAURA | PAKISTAN | 2022 | 18 MIN

GENERATION OUEER (95 MIN)

From a quest for love to a bear of a lifestyle, these 6 shorts explore the diverse journeys of the queer experience.

WILD ROSE HANNSUE | USA | 2022 | 19 MIN

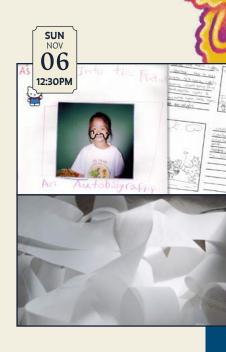
HOTTER UP CLOSE LELAND MONTGOMERY | USA | 2022 | 16 MIN

LIKE FATHER, LIKE URVASHI PATHANIA | USA | 2022 | 12 MIN

LUCKY FISH EMILY MAY JAMPEL | USA | 2022 | 8 MIN

BIGGER IS BETTER LARRY TUNG | TAIWAN, JAPAN, CHINA, HONG KONG | 2022 | 25 MIN

FIRECRACKER CAROLINE GUO | USA | 2022 | 15 MIN





Shorts



HOME BOUND (88 MIN)

Whether sheltering in place or lonely where the heart is, stories about traveling home, being stuck at home, and inescapable tethers to the ties that bind.

PERSONA

SUJIN MOON | SOUTH KOREA | 2022 | 6 MIN

THE LIFE I KNOW

MARIE JAMORA, CAMI KWAN | USA | 2021 | 4 MIN

WILL YOU LOOK AT ME

SHULI HUANG | CHINA | 2022 | 20 MIN

RIDICULOUS NURSHAD

IKRAM NURMEHMET | CHINA | 2022 | 30 MIN

UNFAMILIAR FAMILIAR

HAE-SUP SIN | SOUTH KOREA, SWITZERLAND | 2022 | 28 MIN



INT. ECHOPLEX (87 MIN)

Now in its third year, films that retrieve elliptical histories from unruly archives, remixing the echoes and artifacts of all that's left behind.

INCANTATION

KALPANA SUBRAMANIAN | | INDIA, USA | 2021 | 9 MIN

ALL THE THINGS YOU LEAVE BEHIND

CHANASORN CHAIKITIPORN | THAILAND | 2022 | 18 MIN

IT'S RAINING FROGS OUTSIDE

MARIA ESTELA PAISO | PHILIPPINES | 2022 | 14 MIN

REVOLVER

CRYSTAL Z CAMPBELL | USA | 2022 | 18 MIN

WHAT RULES THE INVISIBLE

TIFFANY SIA | USA | 2022 | 10 MIN

IN THE BEGINNING, WOMAN WAS THE SUN SYLVIA SCHEDELBAUER | GERMANY | 2022 | 18 MIN

Shorts

MAKING IT (96 MIN)

A love letter and behind-the-curtain peek at the lives of artists, the making of art, and the unmaking of the very shapes we create it in.

ASIAN CINEMA CLUB

HANNAH MARIANETTI, JAMES YU | USA | 2022 | 16 MIN

THE BLESSING

ZIYAO LIU | USA | 2022 | 5 MIN

OPERA

JANELLE FENG | USA | 2022 | 3 MIN

MY MOTHER'S DAUGHTER

FLO SINGER | USA | 2022 | 12 MIN

PARTY POSTER

RISHI CHANDNA | INDIA | 2022 | 20 MIN

ALL I EVER WANTED

ERIN LAU | USA | 2022 | 15 MIN

THE ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

KEXIN YAO | USA | 2022 | 10 MIN

THE VOICE ACTRESS

ANNA J. TAKAYAMA | JAPAN | 2022 | 15 MIN

NOWHERE, FOREVER (90 MIN)

Films that toss their viewers in a time-and-space salad, mixing riddles of paradox with near (and nearly familiar) futures.

SUGAR GLASS BOTTLE

NEO SORA | JAPAN | 2022 | 20 MIN

A MAN TREMBLES

MARK CHUA, LAM LI SHUEN | SINGAPORE | 2021 | 23 MIN

SOUVENIRS

ANDREW THEODORE BALASIA | USA | 2022 | 12 MIN

STRANGERS

RAJEE SAMARASINGHE | SRI LANKA, USA | 2022 | 11 MIN

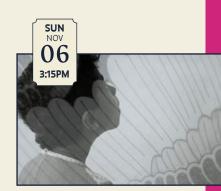
THE ROUND CHESSBOARD

NOBUKAZU KAWABATA | JAPAN | 2022 | 6 MIN

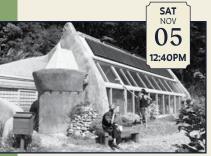
CHINATOWN 2050

LINDA ZHANG, MAXIM GERTLER-JAFFE | CANADA | 2022 | 18 MIN





Shorts



NOV

06

12:00PM

PRESSURE POINTS (92 MIN)

There isn't one edge of the world, there are many—some in far off lands and some inside our skin.

DECLARATIONS OF LOVE TIFF REKEM | USA | 2022 | 29 MIN

INHERITANCE ERIN LAU | USA | 2022 | 18 MIN

THE SONG OF RAIN TETSUICHIRO TSUTA | JAPAN | 2022 | 45 MIN

REEL VOICES (120 MIN)

Introducing twelve fresh perspectives, in twelve stories deeply relevant to the broader San Diego community. From our Reel Voices documentary filmmaking program.

PRICELESS PRIDE SOPHIE ZENG | USA | 2022 | 8 MIN

NEXT GEN SOPHIA HERNANDEZ | USA | 2022 | 8 MIN

HANGING BY A WIRE JANSEN ESPARES | USA | 2022 | 8 MIN

CROWN.
DESTA CHERY | USA | 2022 | 13 MIN

THE VALORANT ONES
JUNOBI REE | USA, SOUTH KOREA | 2022 | 8 MIN

RINNA KYLE TIANSHI | USA | 2022 | 7 MIN

PIECE OF MIND DANIEL ALEJANDRO ZASUETA | USA | 2022 | 6 MIN

ALICE IN INSTAGRAM KHANG NGUYEN | USA | 2022 | 11 MIN

MESTIZO LOVE SOLIA Y. REYES | USA | 2022 | 11 MIN

SELFHOOD LILY TRAN | USA | 2022 | 9 MIN

REBOLUSYON COZA | USA | 2022 | 4 MIN

Shorts

TO LIVE AND DIE IN TAIPEI (75 MIN)

The two most acclaimed recent shorts from Taiwan are accompanied by a diptych from one of the world's greatest living filmmakers.

GOOD DAY

ZHANG ZHI-TENG | TAIWAN | 2021 | 19 MIN

THE MAKING OF CRIME SCENES
HSU CHE-YU | FRANCE, TAIWAN | 2022 | 22 MIN

THE MOON AND THE TREE TSAI MING-LIANG | TAIWAN | 2021 | 34 MIN



Taiwan Film Showcase

We return to UCSD for SDAFF's Taiwan Film Showcase, the largest annual spotlight on Taiwan cinema outside of Asia. All screenings free for UCSD students, faculty, and staff.



A Confucian
Confusion New RESTORATION!24
DIRECTED BY EDWARD YANG



Sponsored by the UCSD Chuan Lyu Endowed Chair in Taiwan Studies, the UCSD Taiwan Lecture Series, the Taiwan Academy Los Angeles, and the Taiwan Ministry of Culture



REEL VOICE/
Empowering the Next Generation of Storytellers



ABOUT PACIFIC ARTS MOVEMENT

Pacific Arts Movement (Pac Arts) is one of the largest media arts organizations in North America that focuses on Asian and Asian American cinema. Our mission is to present Pan Asian media arts to San Diego residents and visitors in order to inspire, entertain, and support a more compassionate society.

OUR PROGRAMS

Pac Arts is committed to sharing powerful stories with audiences year-round through the San Diego Asian Film Festival, Spring Showcase, Spotlight Screenings, and Outdoor Screenings. From our award-winning high school documentary program Reel Voices to Youth Days at the festival, we are also dedicated to educating and nurturing a new generation of creative leaders and storytellers.



SPRING SHOWCASE An eight-day presentation of the best of Asian and Asian American cinema on the other side of the calendar year.



REEL VOICES A 10-week summer documentary program training local high school students to become socially-conscious digital storytellers. Since 2005, Reel Voices empowers high school youth to learn the art of documentary filmmaking and to tell stories that are both personal and deeply relevant to the broader San Diego community.



YOUTH DAYS Two days of free youthoriented film screenings to educate, enlighten, and enhance local students' film and cultural literacy.



OUTDOOR CINEMA Pac Arts presents year-round film programs such as Spotlight and Outdoor Screenings throughout San Diego County.

LEARN HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS pacarts.org/donate



SUPPORT PACIFIC ARTS MOVEMENT BY BECOMING A MEMBER TODAY

membership packages starting at \$60



When you join as a member, you'll not only receive member benefits and insider access to all of our films and events, but you'll also help strenghen our mission to inspire, entertain, and support a more compassionate society.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- •Discounted tickets and passes to advanced screenings, special events, festival merchandise, and film festivals
- •Presale access to our ticketed events before the general public
- •Subscription to the Pac Arts membership e-newsletter
- •Invitations to member-only events including Mixers and Film Forums



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Thank you to
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WE'RE **NOT JUST A DEMOGRAPHIC.**

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The San Diego Asian Pacific Islander (API) Coalition is a group of San Diego API organizations that operates under the fiscal sponsorship of Pacific Arts Movement, a 501(c)3 organization.

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PACIFIC SHOWCASE



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MOVEMENT S



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