

CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICAN MEDIA PRESENTS
CAAMFEST 37

A Mélange of LGBTQ+ Films Bring Color to CAAMFest37's Lineup

San Francisco, CA (April 9, 2019) - [CAAMFest37](#), the annual festival showcase from the [Center for Asian American Media](#) (CAAM), is proud to showcase LGBTQ+ films that traverse the varied experiences of sexuality and identity, as well as LGBTQ+ artists and filmmakers.

Feature Films with LGBTQ+ Content and Filmmakers:

LEITIS IN WAITING

Directed by Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson, Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu, 60 min

The story of Tonga's evolving approach to gender fluidity through a character-driven portrait of the most prominent leiti in the Kingdom, Joey Joleen Mataele, a devout Catholic of royal descent.

Short Programs with LGBTQ+ Themes, Content:

OUT/HERE Shorts Program - As diverse and vibrant as the communities themselves, this latest crop of filmmakers fare to push queer stories into the future with tender films.

ABOUT A SHORT FILM, directed by Kevin Yee, is a gay Asian musical-comedian from Canada about the making of a short film about a gay Asian musical-comedian from Canada.

BED & BREAKFAST, directed by Anna Mikami, measures unspoken gestures between two couples who have a run-in at a bed and breakfast inn.

ENGAGED, directed by David Scala, focuses on Darren struggling to propose to his partner when Darren realizes his insecurities about his sexuality might be what's holding him back.

SPEAK EASY, B, directed by Becca Park and Jun Shimizu, delves into the mind of B, who is coming to terms with depression.

U, directed by Lala Openi, is a spoken word narrative that reflects on the depths of the relationship between Openi and their lover.

WAYWARD EMULSIONS, directed by Tina Takemoto, develops from the fractals of a 35mm film that glimpses a wayward woman.

ZERO ONE, directed by Nick Neon, chronicles Jimmy Park returning home and confronting his homophobic sister over a deeply, dysfunctional family dinner.

OUT/THERE Shorts Program - A showcase of stories from outside of the US that explores the complexities of family dynamics and cultural conflicts when traditional views clash with modern love.

ALL IN MY FAMILY, directed by Hao Wu, confronts the dilemma facing Hao as he introduces his partner and two children to his very traditional parents and relatives back in China.

KADO (A GIFT), directed by Aditya Ahamd, follows Isfi wearing a hijab to be accepted at Nita's house, but prepares a gift for Nita's upcoming birthday.

MY MOTHER, MYSELF & I, directed by King Yaw Soon, presents four mother-son moments and one unspoken truth.

Other Short Films and Programs with LGBTQ+ Themes include:

DAUGHTER (IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY Shorts Program), directed by Amanda Lee, explores an immigrant mother's pain about her transgender daughter.

DIRECTIONS IN SOUND features Club Chai, an event series and curatorial project centering on diasporic narratives, women, and trans artists, DJs and producers.

IN THIS FAMILY (FLIP THE SCRIPT Shorts Program), directed by Drama Del Rosario, follows a son revisiting his home life in the aftermath of being outed as gay.

SWORDED LOVE (FOLLOW ME Shorts Program), directed by Tina Takemoto, captures fleeting cinematic impressions of star-crossed swordsmen in the wanderings of emulsion lifted from a 35mm kung fu action film.

Additional LGBTQ+ Filmmakers at CAAMFest 37 include:

S. Leo Chiang, director, producer

OUR TIME MACHINE

(also directed and produced by Yang Sun)

Artist Maleonn is producing an autobiographical play to honor his father, who's losing his memories to Alzheimer's. OUR TIME MACHINE depicts their relationship with life-size puppets that travel through time to revisit their memories.

James Q. Chan, producer

CHINATOWN RISING

World Premiere

(directed by Harry Chuck and Josh Chuck)

Weaving together never-been-seen photographs and archival footage, this vibrant documentary chronicles key San Francisco Chinatown community leaders who started an activist movement in the 1960s.

Corey Tong, producer/presenter

TRIBUTE TO JEFF ADACHI

A tribute to filmmaker and SF Public Defender Jeff Adachi, whose films will be highlighted during a special program honoring his life and work.

For more information and to purchase tickets for CAAMFest, please visit <http://www.caamfest.com>.

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About CAAMFest:

CAAMFest, formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), celebrates the world's largest showcase for new Asian American and Asian film, food, and music programs. Annually presenting over 120 works in the Bay Area, CAAMFest presents its 37th year from May 9-19, 2019. For more information, please visit <http://www.caamfest.com>.

About CAAM:

CAAM (Center for Asian American Media) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to presenting stories that

convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences to the broadest audience possible. CAAM does this by funding, producing, distributing, and exhibiting works in film, television, and digital media. For more information on CAAM, please visit www.caamedia.org.