

CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICAN MEDIA PRESENTS
CAAMFEST 37

Chinese Ethnicity Represented Across all Sections at CAAMFest37

Opening Night, Special Presentations, and New Directions heavily feature Chinese and Chinese American Stories and History

San Francisco, CA (April 9, 2019) - [CAAMFest37](#), the 37th festival showcase of the [Center for Asian American Media](#) (CAAM), is abundant with Chinese and Chinese American works, with films or events in all sections of the Festival.

Opening this year's CAAMFest is Harry and Josh Chuck's **CHINATOWN RISING**. A love letter to San Francisco's vibrant Chinatown, the film weaves together never-before-seen photographs and archival footage that chronicles key Chinatown community leaders in the 1960s.

The 25th anniversary screening of **THE JOY LUCK CLUB**, directed by Hong Kong Chinese American Wayne Wang, is presented as a free retrospective in Chinatown. Written by Chinese American Amy Tan, the film paved the way for Asian American cinema and will be attended by special guests from the film.

HONG KONG CINEMA: WOMEN ON THE RISE shines a light on the achievements by visionary Hong Kong women in front and behind the camera. The showcase is presented with support from the Hong Kong Economic Trade Office.

STILL HUMAN, directed by Oliver Siu Kuen Chan, offers a glimpse of the challenges facing overseas domestic workers in Hong Kong's projects.

THE LAST STITCH, directed by Alfred Sung, is an affectionate look at Hong Kong immigrants who move their tailoring business to Toronto.

Featured in New Directions, **GOLD THREAD** is a team of video makers and journalists based in Hong Kong who are on a mission to cover China through stories of people, culture, and cuisine. In partnership with CAAMFest, Gold Thread is bringing a selection of videos celebrating Chinese food and the people who make it.

Films that were produced in China include:

LAST SUNRISE, directed by Wen Ren, details the journey of a reclusive astronomer unwillingly paired with his cheery neighbor to figure out what happens when the sun goes dark in their solar energy dependent world.

OUR TIME MACHINE, directed by Yang Sun and S. Leo Chiang, depicts the relationship between artist Maleonn and his father, who's losing his memories to Alzheimer's.

THE WIDOWED WITCH, directed by Cai Chengjie, is the unexpectedly powerful and fiercely unpredictable titular character who learns to survive on her own after losing her house and husband.

Films that feature Chinese or Chinese American actors or subjects include:

BABYSPLITTERS, directed by Sam Friedlander, features Taiwanese American Emily Chang and Danny Pudi in a comedy about baby-sharing.

BEI BEI, directed by Rose Rosenblatt and Marion Lipschutz, is a documentary on Bei Bei Shuai, a Chinese immigrant who was charged with murder after attempting suicide while pregnant.

GO BACK TO CHINA, directed by Emily Ting, is a familial drama about trust fund supported Sasha, who acquiesces to working at her father's toy shop in China.

THE PEOPLE'S MAYOR: ED LEE, directed by Rick Quan, honors the legacy of San Francisco's late mayor, and the first Asian American mayor of a major city, Chinese American Ed Lee.

Short films created by or featuring Chinese and Chinese Americans include:

ABOUT A SHORT FILM (OUT/HERE Shorts Program), 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.

ALL IN MY FAMILY (OUT/THERE Shorts Program), directed by Hao Wu, confronts the dilemma Hao has of introducing his partner and two children to his very traditional parents and relatives back in China.

BARAHA (IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY Shorts Program), directed by Gretchen Carvajal and Violet Wang, is a visual chapbook that combines visual storytelling and poetry to uncover the layered identities of a Filipino American girl.

BUNNY MAN, directed by Athena Han, is set among friends discussing the differences between fresh off the boat and Canadian born Chinese, but the conversation is sidetracked when the presence of a mysterious bunny mascot appears.

CONTINUUM (IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY Shorts Program), directed by Justin Chien and Ryan Alexander Huang, takes place the night of an accident when an estranged father attempts to save his daughter's life with his latest prototype.

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

THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US (IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY Shorts Program) directed by Jeffrey Wu, documents a trip to China to capture the final moments of a grandmother with Alzheimer's.

MY MOTHER, MYSELF & I (OUT/THERE Shorts Program, directed by King Yaw Soon, presents four mother-son moments and one unspoken truth.

MY GRANDPA (IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY Shorts Program), directed by Michael Paili Chen who interviews his grandfather and learns more about the larger cultural tapestry of San Francisco's Chinatown.

SHARE (FOLLOW ME Shorts Program), Barna Szász and Ellie Wen, focuses on identity when an Instagram influencer attempts to reconcile his identity online with his identity in real life.

SPORTS DAY (ALTERED STATES Shorts Program), directed by Lin Tu, turns bizarre when a couple's rented room has something unexplainable going on.

THE VISIT (ALTERED STATES Shorts Program), directed by Roxy Shih, takes place on a couple's visit to their aging grandmother in Taiwan, but everything turns sour when the grandmother mysteriously disappears.

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

###

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.