

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+ connections include:

**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.

**OUR TIME MACHINE**

Directed by Yang Sun, S. Leo Chiang

- 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.
- Director and Producer S. Leo Chiang is gay.

**CHINATOWN RISING**

***World Premiere***

Directed by Harry 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.
- Producer James Q. Chan is gay.

Short programs with LGBTQ+ connections include:

**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 their lover and themselves.

**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 Explore 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 Hao has of introducing 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 or programs with LGBTQ+ connections 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**, directed by Drama Del Rosario, follows a son revisiting his home life in the aftermath of being outed as gay.

**SWORDED LOVE**, 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.

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](http://www.caamedia.org).