



NEWS RELEASE

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BUSAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL & MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION PARTNER ON FILM WORKSHOP

Pitch competition winner to experience five-day film immersion course in LA

BUSAN/SINGAPORE: On October 4 and 5, emerging filmmakers from Korea participated in a screenwriting workshop developed by the Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) and the Motion Picture Association (MPA) with support from Dongseo University, held in conjunction with the 18th Busan International Film Festival 2013.

Themed “Modern Day Auteur: A bridge between Hollywood and Korea, writing cross-cultural scenarios”, the one and a half day workshop provided a creative hothouse for international and Korean film industry representatives to share their experience with the next generation of Korean filmmakers.

The program included a series of lectures on script development, particularly for feature films for an international audience, along with script mentoring sessions and a feature film pitch competition. The event kicked off with an in-depth presentation on writing and directing feature films, by Alister Grierson, (director *James Cameron’s Sanctum 3D, Kakoda* and *Parer’s War*), along with well-known award-winning Korean filmmakers and screenwriting professors, including JEON Chan-il (Deputy Director of the Asian Film Market and film critic), KIM Jee-woon (director/screenwriter *A Tale of Two Sisters, A Bittersweet Life, The Good the Bad, and the Weird, and The Last Stand*), LEE Moo-young (co-writer *Joint Security Area* and *Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance*), LEE Jin-hoon (producer *Speed Scandal, War of the Arrows* and *Architecture 101*) and LEE Hanna (producer *Woman is the Future of Man* and *Secret Sunshine*).

Following the series of lectures, the participating filmmakers joined lecturers in a roundtable project pitching mentoring session, where they discussed techniques and best practice for presenting feature film ideas to film producers, investors and distributors. The filmmakers then presented their projects during a film pitch competition, where they were judged on a combination of the quality of their film project and their pitching skills.

Ms. KIM Jaryung, a screenwriting major from the Graduate School of Cinematic Content at Dankook University, won over the judges in a competitive field to claim first prize for her project *The Hole*, a mystery-thriller about a detective who becomes obsessed with a seemingly mad man while seeking an organ donor for his sick wife.

Ms. KIM will receive a trip to Los Angeles to participate in a comprehensive five-day film immersion program, including introductions to film industry executives, and further opportunities to develop her film projects.

Alister Grierson said, "BIFF and MPA have produced a program of immense value to the fresh new voices of Korean cinema. I'm pleased to be able to spend my time investing in some small way in the next generation of filmmakers here in Busan. They are inquisitive to learn more, and they have ideas that deserve further development and some, hopefully, will see the light of day, or the dark of the cinema for that matter. It's terrific to be a part of this successful event."

JEON Chan-il, Deputy Director of the Asian Film Market, BIFF, said, "The BIFF-MPA Film Workshop provides some of Korea's emerging screenwriting talent with the opportunity to learn how to best structure their synopses and communicate the key ideas of their films to creative colleagues, financiers and audiences. I believe the young writers and directors who attended this workshop will greatly benefit from the knowledge and the feedback shared so generously by the Korean and international film practitioners and executives, and hope that this experience moves them one-step closer to getting their visions realized for the screen."

Given the high quality of the feature film pitch presentations, Mike Ellis, President and Managing Director Asia Pacific, MPA, and co-host of the film workshop, announced a President's Special Recognition Prize. HAN Jungkook, who presented a mystery drama project *Muse*, about the complex relationship between an artist and his muse, was rewarded with an invitation to be the special guest of Mr. Ellis at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards that will be held in Brisbane, Australia on December 12, 2013.

Speaking at the event, Mike Ellis said, "Our experience during this film workshop indicates that there is a real depth of creative talent in the next generation of Korean filmmakers. I thank the Busan International Film Festival for their partnership in this film workshop, and appreciate their vision for, and investment in, these filmmakers who have a lot to offer the local and global industry – they are buzzing with ideas and talent – and we are excited to be a part of it."

The winner of the 2012 film workshop, Ms. KIM Souk Young, said, "Winning the film workshop pitching competition last year allowed me to develop my project and my skills as a writer and filmmaker. It also gave me a level of confidence about my own ability and opened up a lot of possibilities for my career. I'm excited to experience the five day film immersion course in Los Angeles in November and thank the Motion Picture Association for this wonderful opportunity."

The MPA Asia Pacific has hosted film workshops since 2006, providing stepping-stones for emerging filmmakers to develop their careers. In the last 12 months, the MPA has conducted film workshops in Beijing, Shenzhen and Shanghai, and later in October will conduct a workshop in partnership with Digital Hollywood University in Tokyo alongside the Tokyo International Film Festival.

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About the MPA:

Promoting & Protecting Screen Communities in Asia Pacific

The Motion Picture Association (MPA) and the Motion Picture Association International (MPA-I) represent the interests of the six international producers and distributors of filmed entertainment. To do so, they promote and protect the intellectual property rights of these companies and conduct public awareness programs to highlight to movie fans around the world the importance of content protection. These

activities have helped to transform entire markets benefiting film and television industries in each country including foreign and local filmmakers alike.

The organizations act on behalf of the members of the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc (MPAA) which include; Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc.; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal City Studios LLC; Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. The MPA and the MPA-I have worldwide operations which are directed from their head offices in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. and overseen in the Asia Pacific by a team based in Singapore. For more information about the MPA and the MPA-I, please visit www.mpa-i.org.

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