



21st Busan International Film Festival

Final Report

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I. Overview

1. Summary

- Period: Oct 6 (Thu) ~ 15 (Sat)
- 299 films from 69 countries (302 films from 75 countries in 2015)
- Screening Venue: 34 screens at 5 theaters (Market and unofficial screenings excluded)
 - ✓ LOTTE CINEMA Centum City, CGV Centum City, Busan Cinema Center, Sohyang Theater Centum City, MEGABOX Haeundae

2. Total Attendance: 165,149

3. World & International Premieres

- 94 World Premieres / 30 International Premieres

4. Asian Film Market

- Market Badge: 1,381 participants and 742 companies from 47 countries
- Sales Booths: 62 sales booths from 157 companies of 24 countries
- Market Screening: 68 screenings of 63 films from 13 countries and 42 companies (50 Market Premieres)
- The number of Sales Booth was maintained at the same level as last year, participants have slightly increased, and new buyers have grown, despite the occurrence of various changes including the decrease in the overall market budget, the separate opening of BIFCOM
- Like last year, the Asian Film Market has been finalized with the accomplishment of successive on-site contracts in E-IP market and has grown to become a total entertainment market that comprises diverse industries; webtoons, web novels and literary publishers; as well as foreign sales companies and national agencies from various Asian countries.

5. Asian Cinema Fund (ACF)

- Asian Cinema Fund (ACF) 2016 – Funding Summary

- ✓ Script Development Fund: 5 projects
- ✓ Post-Production Fund: 5 projects
- ✓ Documentary AND Fund: 12 projects

-ACF Supported Films Screened at the 21st Busan International Film Festival: 8 Feature films and 8 Documentaries



6. Asian Film Academy (AFA)

- Short Film Production / Screening
 - ✓ *Hello, Uncle!* | HD | 20min | Color
 - ✓ *Cichlid* | HD | 15min | Color
- Workshop, Mentoring, and Special Lecture
- AFA hosted the 1st AFA Network where 60 attendees including AFA alumni, who visited 21st BIFF with their films and AFA 2016 fellows gathered to communicate.

Busan
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Festival



II. Accomplishments

1. Confirming solidity among global cineastes

Many cineastes across the globe have supported the persistent struggle to secure the independence of the Busan International Film Festival. Their physical presence at the Festival has further strengthened the support and solidity for BIFF. This demonstrated that freedom of speech and the independence of the Festival are the foundation for the Festival, and a value that cannot be compromised on.

2. Steady, yet more to go

The Festival did not manage to induce absolute support from the Korean film industry; however, it definitely has given its very best to hold a competent and meaningful Festival despite barriers and time constraints. It is worth noting that this year's Festival is the first festival that was held under the system of a private chairmanship. Content-wise, this system helped us focus on new films and directors, allowing us to look back at the discovery and introduction of Asian directors, which are an important identity and core value of the Festival.

3. Reconfirming the audience's love and significance

The typhoon and earthquake, as well as hardships that the Festival has faced over the last few years have definitely influenced the atmosphere, vibrancy, and audience participation rate. However, witnessing that they still attend the Festival, we were able to reconfirm that the audience is the true owner and foundation of BIFF. The Festival will reciprocate back with substantial programs and improvements in service for audiences.

4. Securing new growth power by strengthening the growth and internal stability of the Asian Film Market and E-IP market.

The Asian Film Market has, once again, proved that it is a durable and stable platform with the extension of sales booths into various fields, a series of completed contracts for E-IP, and high satisfaction by participants. This year's market was assessed as one that manifested its potential to rise as a future hub for sales businesses and E-IP.



III. Awards

1. New Currents Award

Winner: *The Knife in the clear water* / WANG Xuebo (China)

The extremely photogenic environment of the Hui steppe serves as a backdrop to a poetic parable on grief and freedom that plays on the wind-sculpted faces of the protagonists as they relate to ever-pending death through a simple but harsh life of rituals.

Winner: *The Donor* / ZANG Qiwu (China)

With a serene maturity the filmmaker creates a portrait of humanity and sacrifice that is restraint yet boiling with underlying emotion. The excellently scripted film plays as much on the images as on the immaculate timing and superb acting. The conclusion is heartbreaking: when you fight destiny you will lose.

Special Mention: *Parting* / Navid MAHMOUDI (Afghanistan)

The jury would like to give a Special Mention to the director Navid Mahmoudi of “Parting”, to recognize his courage of realizing as an Afghani Irani Filmmaker his debut film about Afghani refugees in Iran.

*** New Currents Award Jury**

- Head Juror: Souleymane CISSÉ (Director / Mali)

- Jury Members: Guneet MONGA (Producer / India)

Bero BEYER (International Film Festival Rotterdam Festival Director)

ZHANG Lu (Director / China)

Mahmoud KALARI (Director / Iran)



2. BIFF Mecenat Award

Winner (Korean): *Neighborhood* / SUNG Seungtaek (Korean)

Neighborhood drives us in a way of tenderness with curiosity to discover a world remain hidden with prejudice and fear. The director offers the motion that there is no better solution to overcome the unknown fear than bravely go over the fence.

Winner (Asia): *The Crescent Rising* / Sheron DAYOC (Philippines)

Addressing the on-going conflict in the Philippines society, 'The Crescent Rising' sends out a message of human dignity and equality. With remarkable use of archive footage and new materials, the director conveys the powerful story of human endurance.

***BIFF Mecenat Award Jury**

- Jurors: WU Yii Feng (Director, Producer / Taiwan)

Alrberto LASTRUCCI (Director of the Festival dei Popoli / Italy)

CHO Young-Jung (Film History Researcher / Korea)



3. Sonje Award

Winner (Korea): *Viewer* / KIM Soyoun (Korea)

19 minutes for showing excellence in unraveling both a grippingly complex and always surprising narrative, which also mirror the personal situation of the young author herself.

Winner (Asia): *Off-season* / Yelzat ESKENDIR (Kazakhstan)

Fragile, soulful, honest, touching, and complex as well. This author shows an original approach in dealing unique issues set in a remote country.

Special Mention: *The Doomed Way* / GUO Sanpi (China)

For a surprisingly accomplished work whose creator, in our opinion, has a great future ahead.

***BIFF Sonje Award Jury**

- Jurors: Mostofa Sarwar FAROOKI (Director / Bangladesh)

Bernhard KARL (Munich Film Festival Programmer / Germany)

NAM Da Eun (Film critic / Korea)



4. Actor and Actress of the Year Awards

Actor of the Year: *Jane* / GU Gyohwan (Korea)

I want to first let you know that my job as jury member, which I took with a joyous heart, has ended with a heavy heart. Judging someone's artistic endeavor was tough. Especially, for myself as an actor, I acutely felt how dangerous it is to judge another's acting and categorize it in regards to quality. I have decided, I would never do this job again

I would like to give my deep compliments to all actors and actresses who have shown their best efforts and passion through their respective movie roles. I heard that the best actor of the year award should be given to the actor who is expected to have a great future as well as who has shown the best performance in a film. Sometimes it is tough to satisfy these two options as an actor. This has made it hard for me to judge.

For Special Mention, I would like to call upon the name of actor, Ki Ju bong, As an admirable big senior, he has shown a great presence in various stage productions and screen appearances. He again, has shown an unequaled performance in *Merry Christmas Mr. Mo*. I happened to realize that his class is far beyond most other actors' abilities. However, since the original purpose of this award is to be given to a new face, I feel sorry. I hope he will graciously understand that we must call upon the name of another actor.

I would like to dedicate the Actor of the Year Award to actor Gu Kyowan, who starred as Jane in the film *Jane*. He blissfully acted out Jane, who is a mysterious yet warm-hearted transgender. Also, he made me realize how important it is to listen and ponder than to talk. Of course, there are many other up-and-coming actors in the field of cinematography; however, based on his performance in the film, this actor has moved my heart the most.

Actress of the Year: *Jane* / LEE Minji (Korea)

Lee Min-ji has created Sohyun who is afraid of being ostracized. Sohyun hides her true self by fitting into her surroundings and living like a shadow. Dynamic actions are anticipated from Actress Lee Min-ji

***Actor & Actress of the Year Award Jury**

-Jurors: KIM Uiseong (Actor / Korea)

CHO Min-su (Actress / Korea)



5. KNN Award

Winner: *In Between Seasons* / LEE Dong-eun (Korea)

6. Busan Bank Award

Winner: *Night of a 1000 Hours* / Virgil WIDRICH (Germany)

7. Citizen Critics' Award

Winner: *Jamsil* / LEE Wanmin (Korea)

Jamsil illustrates a consideration for modern times and seeks a way of solidarity between individuals with a creative composition, showing great potential.

8. Vision Director Award

Winner 1: *Autumn, Autumn* / JANG Woojin (Korea)

This year's jury determined the following two films as the winner of this year's Vision Award. There is coexistence between artificial composition and the natural liveliness in the film, *Autumn, Autumn*. Such coexistence was possible because of the characters, the scenery, and the understanding of the distance between the elements and the camera that gazes into the varied components. We anticipate director Jang Woojin's continuous development in his cinematic mystery that creates tension among audiences throughout the film.

Winner 2: *Hyeon's Quartet* / AHN Seonkyoung (Korea)

Director Ahn Seonkyoung's *Hyeon's Quartet* is a film where the director's profound observation towards the object brings the dialogue and action flow to life. We were able to see the reason why humans act and why acting is one of the ways to love life.

9. Daemyung Culture Wave Award

Winner: *Yongsoon* / SHIN Joon (Korea)

The film skillfully features the emotions of an adolescent girl who finds immature love and consequently grows up because of it.



10. CGV Art House Award

Winner: *Jane* / CHO Hyunhoon (Korea)

Jane ingeniously depicts a story of a runaway girl's experience with tender comfort and embittered violence in an alternative family. Director Cho Hyunhoon, presents a direction going back and forth between a dream and reality. The director Cho's such characterful direction and the young performers Lee Min-ji, Gu Gyohwan, and Lee Juyoung's outstanding actions enable us to anticipate the future of Korean cinema's with excitement. The film leaves us with afterimages that are unlikely to be forgotten; we award the CGV Art-house Award with the hope that such a film will be introduced to more audiences.

11. Busan Cinephile Award

Winner: *The Apology* / Tiffany HSIUNG (Canada)

This film strives to bring dignity to the introduction of the international human rights issue of wartime "Comfort Women" through the voices of 3 elderly women from the Philippines, China, and Korea who exist in the boundaries of history.

12. NETPAC (Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema) Award

Winner: *Merry Christmas Mr. Mo* / LIM Dae Hyung (Korea)

Promising new director Lim Dae Hyung, ingeniously harmonizes classical silent film with intense acting, delightful humor, gloominess in loneliness, and captivating love. The jury especially highly acclaims the director's minimalistic approach towards independent film production and the serious crisis of the emotional connections within a family.

*** NETPAC (Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema) Award Jury**

Jurors : Golam Rabany BIPLOB (Director, Festival Consultant / Bangladesh)

Edvinas PUKSTA (Programmer of Vilnius International Film Festival / Lithuania)

KIM Hyeon su (Representative of Cinema-people-theque Corner Theater / Korea)



13.FIPRESCI (Fédération Internationale de la Presse Cinématographique) Award

Winner: *White Ant* / CHU Hsien-Che (Taiwan)

This year's Busan International Film Festival's FIPRESCI Award Jury decided that the award must be handed to a film with creativity and a bold visual style that enables audiences to immerse into a characters' psychology and feel the hurt at a more profound level.

***FIPRESCI Award Jury**

-Jurors : Engin ERTAN (Film Critic / Turkey)

Manoj BARPUJARI (Film Critic / India)

CHANG Seok Yong (Film Critic / Korea)

14. Asian Filmmaker of the Year Award

Winner: Abbas Kiarostami (Director / Iran)

15. Korean Cinema Award

Winner: Laurence HERSZBERG (Director general of Forum des Images / France)



IV. Summary of Asian Film Market 2016

- ✓ Market Badge: 1,381 participants and 742 companies from 47 countries
- ✓ Sales Booths: 62 sales booths from 157 companies of 24 countries
- ✓ Market Screening: 68 screenings of 63 films from 13 countries and 42 companies (50 Market Premieres)
- ✓ Online Screening: 214 films (172 official selections of Busan International Film Festival Included)

* The number of Sales Booth was maintained at the same level as last year, participants have slightly increased, and new buyers have grown, despite the many changes, including budget cuts and the holding of the BIFCOM independently. Like last year, the Asian Film Market, including varied industrial fields, has been finalized with the accomplishment of successive on-site contracts for E-IP and high satisfaction by participants.

Asian Project Market (APM)

- A total of 27 projects.
- * Selecting up-and-coming projects by promising new directors and female directors, the Asian Project Market arranged more than 550 meetings over 3 days and strengthened its stature as one of the largest places for investment and coproduction.

APM Award Winners

- **Busan Award:** *Love and Vengeance* by Edwin (Indonesia)
- **Bright East Films Award:** *The Chrysanthemum and the Guillotine* by ZEZE Takahisa (Japan)
- **CJ Entertainment Award:** *White Building* by NEANG Kavich (Cambodia, France)
- **LOTTE Award:** *Undefined* / SEO Eunyoung (Korea)
- **KOCCA Award:** *The French Woman* / KIM Hee-Jung (Korea)
- **ARTE International Prize:** *White Building* / NEANG Kavich (Cambodia, France)
- **MONEFF Award:** *The Cold-blooded Penguin* / JANG Kunjae (Korea)
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E-IP Market 2016 Award Winners [Title by author / Publisher or Production company]

- **NEW CREATOR Award (Book To Film):** *The Lawyer who sues Chosun Dynasty* by CHUNG Myung Seob / EunHaeng Namu Publishing Co.
- **NEW CREATOR Award (E-IP Pitching):** *Sprinter: Underworld* by AN Jongjun / All That Story



V. Summary of Asian Cinema Fund (ACF)

1. Asian Cinema Fund (ACF) 2016 – Funding Summary

- Script Development Fund: 5 Projects

(4 from Asia, 1 from AFA Project), 10,000,000 KRW each

- Post-Production Fund: 5 Projects

(1 from Asia, 3 from Korea, 1 from Biennale College-Cinema), In-Kind Support

- Asian Network of Documentary (AND) Fund: 12 Projects

(8 from Asia): 2 projects will each receive 10,000,000 KRW, 6 projects will each receive 5,000,000 KRW

(4 from Korea): 1 project will receive 20,000,000 KRW, 3 projects will each receive 10,000,000 KRW

*Distribution Support Fund provides domestic distribution support for 1 Korean Documentary screened at the Busan International Film Festival: *Burmese on the Roof* by Oh Hyunjin and Ko Duhyun.

- AND Program: Oct 10th (Mon) ~ 13th (Thu)

- ① Special Lecture from Mori Tatsuya (Director of documentary *Fake*)
- ② 'AND Taskovski Films Asian Talent Fund Award' selection: *They Are One Hundred Years Old* by Dukar Tserang

2. Asian Cinema Fund (ACF) Expansion and Accomplishments

- New partner for Post-Production Fund

Sound mixing company <Pluto Sound Group> newly partnered with ACF Post-Production Fund.

- Continues MOU with Venice Film Festival Biennale College-Cinema

Hotel Salvation by Shubhashish Bhutiani has received funding from MOU with 2016 Venice Film Festival Biennale College-Cinema.

- Incubating Fund project funding and output

ACF 2014 Script Development Fund project *Diamond Island* by Davy Chou has been received SACD prize at Cannes Film Festival 2016 and Grand Prix Award at Cabourg Film Festival. The film was screened at Munich International Documentary Film Festival and



21st Busan Film Festival in A Window on Asian Cinema section.

3. ACF Supported Films Screened at the 21st Busan International Film Festival

8 Feature films (5 from Asia, 3 from Korea)

8 Documentaries (6 from Asia, 2 from Korea)

* ***Diamond Island* | A Window on Asian Cinema | Davy CHOU**

2014 ACF Incubating Fund

* ***Apprentice* | A Window on Asian Cinema | BOO junfeng**

2012 ACF Incubating Fund

* ***The Road to Mandalay* | A Window on Asian Cinema | Midi Z**

2012 ACF Incubating Fund

* ***Hotel Salvation* | A Window on Asian Cinema | Shubhashish BHUTANI**

2015 ACF Post-Production Fund

* ***Honeygiver Among the Dogs* | A Window on Asian Cinema | Dechen RODER**

2016 ACF Post-Production Fund

* ***An Insignificant Man* | Wide Angle – Documentary Showcase | Khushboo RANKA,
Vinay SHUKLA**

2014 AND Dongseo Asia Fund

* ***In Exile* | Wide Angle – Documentary Showcase | Tin Win NAING**

2015 AND Busan Bank Fund

* ***The Cinema Travellers* | Wide Angle – Documentary Showcase | Shirley ABRAHAM,
Amit MADHESHIYA**

2014 AND Busan Bank Fund

* ***Absent Without Leave* | Wide Angle – Documentary Competition | LAU Kek-Huat,
CHEN Jing-Lian**

2015 Dongseo Asia Fund

* ***Sunday Beauty Queen* | Wide Angle – Documentary Competition | Baby Ruth
VILLARAMA**

2016 AND BIFF Mecenat Fund

* ***Railways Sleepers* | Wide Angle – Documentary Competition | Sompot
CHIDGASORNPONGSE**

2016 AND BIFF Mecenat Fund



* **SUN | Wide Angle – Documentary Competition | WON Hoyeon**

2016 AND BIFF Mecenat Fund

* ***Burmese on the Roof* | Wide Angle – Documentary Competition | OH Hyunjin, KO**

Duhyun

2016 AND BIFF Mecenat Fund

* ***Merry Christmas Mr. Mo* | New Currents | LIM Dae Hyung**

2016 ACF Post-Production Fund

* ***Jane* | Korean Cinema Today - Vision | CHO Hyunhoon**

2016 ACF Post-Production Fund

* ***LOST TO SHAME* | Korean Cinema Today - Vision | NAM Yeon-woo**

2016 ACF Post-Production Fund

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VI. Summary of Asian Film Academy (AFA)

- 1. Period:** September 29th (Thu) ~ October 16th (Sun), 2016 (18 days)
- 2. Venue:** Busan Cinema Center, Dongseo University Centum Campus, ARPINA Youth Hostel, Busan Asian Film School and etc.
- 3. Participant:** 100 people (24 fellows from 16 countries, 5 TAs, 12 interns, 13 faculty members, 46 staffs etc.)

4. Faculty Members

- Dean: TSAI Ming Liang (Taiwan)
- Directing Mentor: Vimukthi JAYASUNDARA (Sri Lanka)
- Cinematography Mentor: Bogumil GODFREJOW (Poland)

5. Programs

- ① Short Film Production and Screening
 - *Hello, Uncle!* | HD | 20min | Color
 - *Cichlid* | HD | 15min | Color
- ② Workshop and Mentoring (Directing, Cinematography, Production Design, Sound mixing, Editing)
- ③ 7 Special Lectures: Production Design (Kim Heesoo), Editing (Choi Min-yeong), Cinematography lecture with Blackmagic Camera (Kim Youngcheol), Directing(Tsai Ming Liang), Cinematography lecture with ARRI Camera(Bill Bennett), Co-production (Isabelle Glachant), DI(Oh Byung-geol)
- ④ 3 film screening: *Autumn Days* by Tsai Ming Liang, *The Forsaken Land* by Vimukthi Jayasundara, *Modris* by Bogumil Godfrejow.
- ⑤ 1 AFA Network : 60 attendees

6. Scholarships

- ① 2 fellows will be awarded with 5,000,000 KRW each by Dongseo University
 - Awardee: CHENG Thim Kian (Malaysia)
 - Awardee: Maaria SAYED (India)
- ② 2 cinematography fellows will be awarded with a LED lighting each from DMLite Inc. and Lumos
 - Awardee: LEE Doohee (Korea)
 - Awardee: Verapath PAKAYANGKUL (Thailand)



- ③ 2 fellows will be awarded scholarships for New York Film Academy's 4 week Filmmaking Workshop in New York and Beijing
 - Awardee: Eldar SHIBANOV (Kazakhstan)
 - Awardee: Rachel LIEW (Singapore)

VII. 21st Busan International Film Festival's Accredited Visitor

For total 5,759

Domestic Guests 2,640

Foreign Guests 677

Cinephiles 1,061

Asian Film Market 1,381



*Excluding press