

The 28th Busan International Film Festival

Final Report

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**28th BUSAN
International Film Festival**
4–13 October 2023

I. Overview

1. Basic Overview

- Busan International Film Festival Period: Oct 4th (Wed) - Oct 13rd (Fri), 2023
- Screening Venues: 25 screens in 4 theaters
 - Busan Cinema Center, CGV Centum City, LOTTE CINEMA Centum City, LOTTE CINEMA Daeyoung (Community BIFF)
- Selections: 269
 - Official Selection: 209 films from 70 countries
 - World + International Premiere: 88 films
 - World Premiere: 80 films
 - International Premiere: 8 films
 - Community BIFF: 60 films

2. Total Attendance

- Film Festival: 142,432 (Occupied seats: approximately 82%)
- Community BIFF: 11,092 (Occupied seats: 79.4%)
- BIFF Everywhere: 8,228

3. Program Events

- 12 Open Talk
- 11 Outdoor Greeting
- 2 Special Talk
- 4 Actors' House
- 1 Master Class
- 1 Hand-Printing Ceremony
- 252 Guest Visit (GV)



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4. Asian Contents & Film Market Summary

- Market Badges: A total of 49 countries, 918 companies, 2,479 participants
- Sales Booths: A total of 23 countries, 271 companies, 98 sales booths
- Asian Project Market (APM) Meetings: 826
- Busan Story Market Meetings: 1,000
- Platform BUSAN Participants: A total of 24 countries, 115 participants

5. Busan International Film Festival Guests

- **Total Participants: 7,772**
 - Domestic Festival Guests: 2,903
 - International Festival Guests: 891
 - Domestic ACFM Guests: 1,383
 - International ACFM Guests: 1,096
 - Cinephile Guests: 1,499

※ Excluding visitors & press members



II. Awards

1. New Currents Award

[Winner 1] *The Wrestler* | Iqbal H. CHOWDHURY | Bangladesh / Canada

Jury Comment: It was moving to witness the vision, aesthetic aspirations, and profound interest and passion for social issues through the eyes of 10 new directors in this year's selections from the New Currents section. Deciding on 2 awardees was a true challenge, as every film was exceptional. One of the winners is *The Wrestler* by Iqbal H. Chowdhury. The film was like a fantastic single-round match, magically depicting an exciting narrative.

[Winner 2] *SEPTEMBER 1923* | MORI Tatsuya | Japan

Jury Comment: Another winner is *SEPTEMBER 1923*, directed by Mori Tatsuya. We support the bravery to face the history that had been forgotten. While we wish the other 8 films could have received equal recognition, members of the jury will remember the names of those 8 directors. Thank you for sharing such wonderful films, and we look forward to your following works.

* New Currents Award Juries

- Jury President: JUNG Sung-il (Korea / Film Critic, Director)
- Jury Members: Ava CAHEN (France / Artistic Director of La Semaine de la Critique - Cannes)
 - Edwin (Indonesia / Director)
 - Christina OH (United States / Producer)
 - HAN Junhee (Korea / Director)



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2. KIM Jiseok Award

[Winner 1] Paradise | Prasanna VITHANAGE | Sri Lanka / India

Jury Comment: One award goes to *Paradise*, directed by Prasanna Vithanage. Through this film, Prasanna Vithanage exposes how a corrupt regime ruins this beautiful country by obstructing peace, depriving its citizens of humanity as they corner them into oppression. It is a film that carries the curiosity that sparked from a small, everyday moment, eventually leading to an ironic ending.

[Winner 2] Bride Kidnapping | Mirlan ABDYKALYKOV | Kyrgyzstan

Jury Comment: Another recipient is *Bride Kidnapping*, directed by Mirlan Abdykalykov. This film vividly depicts the prevalent shocking customs in Kyrgyzstan with unforgettable characters and a straightforward narrative. It is a powerful film that evokes fulfilling excitement as it enters our lives.

*** KIM Jiseok Award Juries**

- Jury Members: Martine THÉROUANNE (France / Festival Director of Vesoul International Film Festival of Asian Cinema)
NISHIKAWA Miwa (Japan / Director)
LEE Kwangkuk (Korea / Director)



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3. BIFF Mecenat Award

**[Winner 1] The Voices of the Silenced | PARK Soo-nam, PARK Maeui
| Korea / Japan**

Jury Comment: In addition to various unresolved issues from before the war between South Korea and Japan to the present, such as the comfort women issue and forced recruitment, the director's "sight" includes the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the Battle of Okinawa, where the Pacific War unfolded. For over 50 years, she has fought against oblivion with her camera. Park Soo-nam, a Zainichi director, now wants to digitize her films to preserve them and the stories of the Korean laborers under coercion and Comfort Women in Japan for the next generation, together with her daughter. It is moving to see how a mother and daughter's vision can connect as they work together, and their conversations become another voice that needs to be heard as repressed history is brought to life.

[Winner 2] Republic | JIN Jiang | Singapore / China

Jury Comment: Eryang's dreams and utopias know no bounds. In his eight-square-meter room, the musician proclaims his republic and turns it into a liberated area. "Republic" is always crowded with people. There is conversation, drinking, and singing. Sex, drugs, and rock'n'roll meet Xi Jinping and Mao Zedong, and American pop music meets criticism of capitalism. This work highlights the freedom with which today's young people put into practice the image of Republic effortlessly in a small space. What is more interesting is that the creator used a unique and adventurous method to depict the work without stepping outside this extremely narrow space. This film takes us into the attitude towards the life of a youth who has no money to survive the day.

*** BIFF Mecenat Award Juries**

- Jury Members: HARA Kazuo (Japan / Director)

Anke LEWEKE (Germany / Film Critic)

Kyungsoon (Korea / Director)



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4. Sonje Award

[Winner 1] MYDEAR | JEON Dohee, KIM Sohee | Korea

Jury Comment: We unanimously selected *MYDEAR* as the winner, which boldly attempted to blend melodrama and science fiction. The work demonstrates remarkable finesse while portraying sensitivity towards minorities. This film successfully weaves stories from various layers into a single theme, rooted in a profound understanding and sympathy toward individuals with disabilities. We want to highlight the delicate and focused performance of the director and actor Jeon Dohee, who portrayed the protagonist with a hearing impairment. Her compelling performance moved the hearts of the audience deeply. We eagerly anticipate the future works of directors Kim Sohee and Jeon Dohee.

[Winner 2] 21 Weeks Later | Nasrin MOHAMMADPOUR | Iran

Jury Comment: Our jury deeply empathized with *21 Weeks Later* for addressing the reality and suffering of Iranian women who lack autonomy over their bodies. This is not just an issue in Iran but one that many women continue to face worldwide, reminding us that it remains a pertinent question. The decision to terminate a pregnancy is a small liberation over one's body, but the reality of being a woman tragically presents more significant barriers. *21 Weeks Later* succinctly portrays such a theme in a non-conventional cinematic language. The film questions what motherhood truly means and how to combat the despairing reality, making it all the more noteworthy.

[Special Mention] Everybody's Gotta Love Sometimes | Sein LYAN TUN | France / Myanmar / Indonesia

Jury Comment: We would like to specifically mention *Everybody's Gotta Love Sometimes* by Sein Lyan Tun, a director from Myanmar. It eloquently transforms personal wounds and traumas into the language of cinema. The protagonist, Phyo, is a queer Asian immigrant residing in Paris, who is concurrently a victim of sexual violence. The traumas of his past is teased through sporadic sounds akin to hallucinations, while his current focus lies in the language of liberated gestures. Rather than exhaustively explaining every detail, the film successfully employs powerful, evocative music coupled with moderate storytelling. We



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express our profound support for Phylo's journey towards genuine mental and physical freedom, extending deep admiration and encouragement for the work of director Sein Lyan Tun.

*** Sonje Award Juries**

- Jury Members: JANG Kun-jae (Korea / Director)

WEI Shujun (China / Director)

Bianca BALBUENA (Philippines / Head of Studios & Managing Director of Anima & Secret Menu)



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5. Actor of the Year

[Actor of the Year - Male] JANG Sung-bum | Work to Do | Korea

Jury Comment: The profound comprehension of the work, insightful character analysis, and subtle performance left a lasting impression. For an actor's performance to truly stand out, it is crucial to grasp both direction and the script thoroughly. What intrigued us was how the actor effortlessly conveyed the director's intentions through the emotional journey of a character. It was a meaningful piece that prompted contemplation on the systems within our society.

[Actor of the Year - Female] OH Minae | Concerning My Daughter | Korea

Jury Comment: Oh Minae well expressed the subtle emotions and changes in the conflicts of the character through a delicate and passionate performance. As she is someone who has been acting diligently for a long time, we hope many people will get to know the actor Oh Min-ae even more.

*** Actor of the Year Juries**

- Jury Members: Jung Woo (Korea / Actor)

HAN Yeri (Korea / Actor)

6. KB New Currents Audience Award

[Winner] Heritage | LEE Jong-su | Korea

7. Flash Forward Audience Award

[Winner] The Dreamer | Anaïs TELLENNE | France



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8. FIPRESCI Award

[Winner] That Summer's Lie | SOHN Hyun-lok | Korea

Jury Comment: Breathing new life into the cinematic tradition of moral comedies, this sophisticated depiction of emotional disarray follows a teenage schoolgirl who is forced to tell the truth in order to receive fitting punishment. By complicating the nature of truthfulness, this film rejects the assignment and refuses to pass judgement. Instead, it chooses to embrace – as expressed by a character – "the power of love".

*** FIPRESCI Award Juries**

- Jury Members: Gulbara TOLOMUSHOVA (Kyrgyzstan / Film Critic)
Sebastian LINDVALL (Sweden / Film Critic)
KIM Hyeshin (Korea / Film Critic)

9. NETPAC Award

[Winner] Solids by the Seashore | Patiparn BOONTARIG | Thailand

Jury Comment: *Solids by the Seashore* presents a variety of themes spanning between human and human, and human and nature, with a clear attitude in a flexible manner. Through images, it delicately connects not only human and nature but also the flow of time, tradition and change, the microscopic and the macroscopic, inviting one to imagine an uncertain future.

*** NETPAC Award Juries**

- Jury Members: Mark SCHILLING (United States / Film Critic)
SONG Eunji (Korea / Programmer)
TERUOKA Sozo (Japan / Programming Director)



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10. LG OLED New Currents Award

[Winner] Solids by the Seashore | Patiparn BOONTARIG | Thailand

Jury Comment: LG OLED New Currents Award, the newly established award for the New Currents section, goes to *Solids by the Seashore* by director Patiparn Boontarig. We aimed to find a film embodying the primary significance of this award, which is a new vision. Each director provided unique answers, and our hearts were moved as we watched *Solids by the Seashore*. We will also remember and support the other 9 directors' vision. We express gratitude to everyone who showcased a new vision. We look forward to your following films.

11. LG OLED Vision Award

[Winner] The Berefts | Jeong Beom, HUR Jang | Korea

Jury Comment: We focused on how films demonstrate a unique perspective and a fresh sensibility. As a result, we chose *The Berefts*. This film skillfully exposes the grim reality the characters face with a smart narrative structure, maintaining tension throughout the plot. It captivates attention to the characters' facial expressions, personalities, and relationships. Even after watching the film, it intensifies emotional resonance.

*** LG OLED Vision Award Juries**

- Jury Members: PARK Inje (Korea / Director)

CHANG Yeongyeop (Korea / Film Journalist)

HONG Eunmi (Korea / Film Critic)



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12. DGK PLUS M Award

[Winner 1] Work to Do | PARK Hong-jun | Korea

Jury Comment: Step by step, the plot calmly builds itself up and then shakes us up with the heavy truth. We especially want to congratulate the director's tenacity and leadership, which reflected off every character with such incredible performance by the actors.

[Winner 2] Isle of Snakes | Eu-min KIM | Korea

Jury Comment: The island's folklore has taken on flesh and voice, evolving into an entirely new genre of film. This movie is akin to an unexplored world that we have never experienced before. The unfamiliar performances, visuals, and music seep in like a serpent, compelling and persuasive in a way never encountered before.

*** DGK PLUS M Award Juries**

- Jury Members: PARK Youngjib (Korea / Director)
Inan (Korea / Director)
LEE Sooyoun (Korea / Director)

13. CGV Award

[Winner] Concerning My Daughter | LEE Mirang | Korea

Jury Comment: *Concerning My Daughter* portrays societal prejudices and discrimination through the contradictory image of a conflicted mother. Simultaneously, it universalizes minority issues within the process of the mother and daughter coming to understand each other. This film stands out for its meticulous approach in depicting relationships, showcased through stable direction and impressive performances by the actors. For these reasons, we present the CGV Award for this remarkable work.



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14. KBS Independent Film Award

[Winner] House of the Seasons | OH Jung-min | Korea

Jury Comment: The juries of the KBS Independent Film Award—Director Kim Chohee, Producer Lee Jinsook, and Film Critic Ju Sungchul—unanimously decided to award director Oh Jung-min's *House of the Seasons*. Invited to the 'Korean Cinema Today - Vision', *House of the Seasons* delicately explores the intimate relationships within a three-generational family, portraying them with both dryness and occasional intensity. While numerous works, such as Im Kwon-Taek's *Festival* (1996) and Park Chul-soo's *Farewell My Darling* (1996), satirically depict the intertwining of funerals and extended families, *House of the Seasons* expansively broadens the landscape of family stories in our society, whether one likes to accept the changes or not. The narrative and imagery undoubtedly make this film a standout discovery of the year.

*** KBS Independent Film Award Juries**

- Jury Members: KIM Chohee (Korea / Director)
LEE Jinsook (Korea / Producer)
JU Sungchul (Korea / Film Critic)

15. CGK Award

[Winner] House of the Seasons | Cinematographer LEE Jinkeun | Korea

Jury Comment: We present the CGK award to cinematographer Lee Jinkeun for the film *House of the Seasons*. Lee Jinkeun demonstrated outstanding technical proficiency in filmmaking by utilizing lighting and workflow, creating cinematic moments through delicate craftsmanship that captures life and death in modern Korean history with a nuanced perspective on both close-ups and wide shots.



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[Special Mention 1] *Isle of Snakes* | Cinematographer KIM Jin-pyo | Korea

[Special Mention 2] *Concerning My Daughter* | Cinematographer KIM Jiryong | Korea

Jury Comment: Furthermore, we extend special applause and support to cinematographer Kim Jin-pyo for the film *Isle of Snakes*, which impressed the judges with its innovative visual language, and to cinematographer Kim Jiryong for the film *Concerning My Daughter*, where the depth of the screen was beautifully expressed.

*** CGK Award Juries**

- Jury Members: LEE Seon-yeong (Korea / Cinematographer)
YUN Ji-un (Korea / Cinematographer)
LEE Doo-man (Korea / Cinematographer)

16. Critic b Award

[Winner] *Last Summer* | CHOI Seung-woo | Korea

Jury Comment: *Last Summer* possesses a tranquil landscape and a simple narrative. Simultaneously, the film's ambiguity is captivating. Its simplicity inspires us to reflect on ideas we may have overlooked or never bothered to think about. Furthermore, *Last Summer's* unique rhythm invites us linger between people, farewells, and seasons. We have faith in this movie's poetic strength.

*** Critic b Award Juries**

- Jury Members: MOON Hyungseok (Korea / Critic)
KIM Pilnam (Korea / Critic)
GOO Hyeongjun (Korea / Critic)



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17. Aurora Media Award

[Winner 1] House of the Seasons | OH Jung-min | Korea

Jury Comment: The director masterfully captures the familiar scenes of ancestral rites and funerals, inviting the audience, particularly Koreans, to deeply connect with the realistic portrayal of family life. This insight extends beyond, to the depiction of the pain within modern Korean history. The remarkable ensemble performances of the actors, with Kang Seung-ho's presence being particularly outstanding, are truly praiseworthy.

[Winner 2] FAQ | KIM Da-min | Korea

Jury Comment: The film brilliantly infiltrates the mundane, tiring, and even pitiable daily lives with the charming imagination of a young girl. The director's well-crafted storytelling delivers a proactive and wholesome message. The professional performances of the child actors, including Park Na-eun in the role of Dong-chun, are also awe-inspiring.

18. Watcha Short Award

[Winner 1] MYDEAR | JEON Dohee, KIM Sohee | Korea

Jury Comment: The film delicately captures discrimination and discomfort experienced by the protagonist with a hearing impairment in her everyday life. It exhibits a high level of cinematic craftsmanship, with a warming atmosphere surrounding the film and actor's natural performance.

[Winner 2] KARMA | CHOI Soohyuk | Korea

Jury Comment: The film's unique cinematography, music, and art style, reminiscent of classic movies, make this film captivating. The witty expression and skillful direction maintaining a dramatic tension throughout, were outstanding. We look forward to the director's subsequent work.



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19. Citizen Critics' Award

[Winner] *The Berefts* | Jeong Beom, HUR Jang | Korea

Jury Comment: *The Berefts* presents meticulously crafted direction through impressive characters and cinematographic techniques. The ambiguity in the narrative intensifies the tension of the work and foreshadows the characters' destinies. This film, providing the audience with lasting resonance, showcases peculiar characters and the ways in which they are expressed to align seamlessly.

20. Busan Cinephile Award

[Winner] *Yellow Door: '90s Lo-fi Film Club* | LEE Hyuk-rae | Korea

Jury Comment: *Yellow Door: '90s Lo-fi Film Club* sheds light on cinephiles of the 90s by tracing the legacy of a film community known as "Yellow Door." Reflecting on an era when even watching a single movie was challenging, it raises innocent questions about what movies mean to us today and why we love them.

21. The Choon-yun Award

[Winner] KIM Ji-yeon | Korea | Producer, CEO of CRANKUP FILM

*** The Choon-yun Award Juries**

- Jury Members: KANG Je-kyu (Korea / Director)

SHIM Jaemyung (Korea / CEO of Myung Films)

YOO Ji-tae (Korea / Actor)

JUNG Hanseok (Korea / Programmer)



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Ⅲ. Final Report

1. Successful Event Focusing on the Essence of the Film Festival

Despite concerns due to reduced budget, the Busan International Film Festival could host a successful event without fail, building on its strong foundation of 27 years. It was a year that once again concentrated on the essence of film festivals, of watching good films together and meeting to share each other's thoughts and opinions through conversation.

2. Prominent Figures of Cinema at the Film Festival

Following the host Song Kang Ho, who kicked off the 28th Busan International Film Festival, Han Yeri and Jung Woo, the juries for the Actor of the Year Award, jointly marked the grand finale. Including figures like Chow Yun Fat, Luc Besson, Fan Bingbing, Kore-eda Hirokazu and Hamaguchi Ryusuke, numerous international and Korean filmmakers engaged in interactions with the audience through events such as GV, Open Talks, and Outdoor Greetings.

3. Film Festival Packed with Audiences, Increased Occupied Seats!

The number of selected works decreased compared to last year, but the seat occupancy rate, which was 74% last year, increased to 82% this year, reaffirming ongoing interest from the audience. A total of 142,432 audiences participated in various events including 252 GVs, and 294 screenings were sold out of the 209 officially selected works.



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4. Special Program in Focus: Korean Diasporic Cinema, Renaissance of Indonesian Cinema

The Korean American Special Program in Focus: Korean Diasporic Cinema, which for the first time, gathered Korean American directors and actors who are active in Hollywood, received great praise from the audience – so much that many voiced it should be an annual program. As for the Renaissance of Indonesian Cinema, 12 feature-length and short films along with 150 filmmakers and actors attended the festival and market events, highlighting the achievements of Indonesia and the prominence of Asian cinema today.

5. Diverse Outdoor Events and Actors' House Received High Praise

From 12 Open Talks with the opening film, *Because I Hate Korea*, CHOW Yun Fat: True Colors of a Hero 周潤發之英雄風範, and more, and 11 Outdoor Greetings including *KYRIE*, Shining Stars from Indonesia, *Cobweb*, and 3 sessions of Master Class and Special Talk, the outdoor events garnered much attention from the audience. Furthermore, Actors' House, which was hosted by Youn Yuh-jung, Han Hyo-joo, Song Joong-ki, and John Cho, allowed the audience to see the genuine reactions of the actors, as they were pleasantly surprised to see a full house each time.

6. p!tt and p!tt GROUND, Attempt for an Enhanced Festival Experience for the Audience

"p!tt" was first launched in 2022 with the aim of showcasing not only official selections but also various cultural events at BIFF. Now in its second year, p!tt has created a space called p!tt GROUND, an audience lounge combined with a merchandise shop. It presented special merchandise integrated with the festival's programs and collaborated with various brands, resulting in numerous sold-out cases. In particular, collaborative products with CGV CINESHOP and local brands in Busan gained much attention throughout the festival period,



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reflecting the festival's commitment to symbiotic relationships between the film industry and the local community.

7. Record-High Participation in the Asian Contents & Film Market

Marking its 18th edition, the Asian Contents & Film Market saw an increase with participants from 49 countries, totaling 2,479 attendees, and filled a 30% larger exhibition space with 98 booths offering diverse industry programs, compared to the previous year. Participants were actively engaged in business meetings and networking opportunities. The Asian Project Market, focusing on film co-production and investment, along with the Busan Story Market, dedicated to IP content sales, hosted a total of 1,826 meetings. The ACFM Conference, comprising of 30 sessions including pitching, forums, and seminars, explored the current and future aspects of the content industry. Notably, at this year's inaugural Rising Films International Awards, director Kim Mijo won for *The Journey To Gyeongju*, securing support for a maximum production budget of 1 billion won.

8. Asia Contents Awards & Global OTT Awards Expanded to the Global Stage

The Asia Contents Awards & Global OTT Awards, co-hosted by the Ministry of Science and ICT and Busan Metropolitan City this year, marked the beginning of an even more progressive content awards ceremony by expanding the scope of content globally. Compared to the previous year, 5 additional award categories were introduced, totaling 17 sections. Disney Plus' *Moving* received awards in various categories, including Best Creative, Best Writer, Best Lead Actor, and Best Newcomer Actor. Netflix's *Scoop* also garnered attention by winning the Best Asian TV Series and Best Lead Actress awards.

9. Community BIFF Led by the Audience, and BIFF Everywhere Welcoming a New Era with Expanded Collaborations



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Community BIFF achieved a nearly 80% seat occupancy rate this year, thanks to the program's qualitative improvement and diversification. Request Cinema had a record number of requests, and the lineup of prominent guests including Kim Jee-woon, Bong Joon Ho, Lim Soo-jung, Chung Seokyoung, and Jung Hoon Hee, along with collaborations with domestic organizations, sparked discussions. BIFF Everywhere, in its effort to showcase the unique charm of Busan, provided unforgettable memories to the audience in distinctive locations such as Dongnaehyanggyo, Gimhae International Airport, and the Busan Eurasia Platform. It successfully attempted to approach the citizens, away from the Busan Cinema Center and reveal the true essence of the festival. Introducing a BIFF Everywhere in Yeouido highlighted a fresh development extending beyond Busan to major cities nationwide.



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IV. Program Report

i . CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy

1. Program Report

- Period: Sept 24 (Sun) – Oct 13 (Fri) (20 days)
- Key Participants: 3 faculty members, 8 instructors, 24 fellows, 5 alumni, 4 JIMFA Scholarship Recipients
- Participating Nations: 20 countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Syria, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, and Vietnam)
- Faculty
 - Dean: SUWA Nobuhiro (Director/Japan)
 - Directing Mentor: KIM Hee-Jung (Director/Korea)
 - Cinematography Mentor: Artur ŻURAWSKI (Cinematographer/Poland)

2. Main Programs

① Short Film Production & Screening

- *The Last Night in Korea* | DCP | 18 min | Color
- *Pink Tree* | DCP | 18 min | Color

② Clinic & Mentoring

- Script Development (Script Doctor LEE Wanmin)
- ARRI ALEXA35 Familiarisation and Hands-on Training (ARRI Specialist LOW Yi Ci)
- Camera Hands-on Training (Cinematography Mentor Artur ŻURAWSKI)



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- Special Training on Set Equipment (Technical Supervisor CHO Heedae)
- Production Design Clinic (Production Designer AHN Ji-hye)
- Editing Clinic (Editor Steve M. CHOE)
- Film Scoring Clinic (Film Composer PARK Kiheon)
- Sound Clinic (Sound Designer HAN Myung-hwan, Sound Designer & Foley Artist KIM Yong-kook)
- DI Clinic (Technical Supervisor CHO Heedae)
- Dean's Mentoring (Director SUWA Nobuhiro)
- 1:1 Screenwriting Mentoring (Script Doctor LEE Wanmin)

③ Lecture

- Cinematography Lecture I & II (Cinematography Mentor Artur ŻURAWSKI)
- Editing Lecture (Editor Steve M. CHOE)
- DI Lecture (Technical Supervisor CHO Heedae)
- Production Design Lecture (Production Designer AHN Ji-hye)
- Foley Lecture (Sound Designer & Foley Artist KIM Yong-kook)
- Sound Lecture (Sound Designer HAN Myung-hwan)
- Film Scoring Lecture (Film Composer PARK Kiheon)
- Screenwriting Lecture (Script Doctor LEE Wanmin)

④ Mentor Film Screening

- Director KIM Hee-Jung | *A French Woman* (2019)
- Cinematography Mentor Artur ŻURAWSKI | *4235476335* (1997), *Close Up* (2017)

⑤ Dean Masterclass

- Director SUWA Nobuhiro Masterclass



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⑥ MPA-BAFA Film Workshop: Bridge to Hollywood

- Special Lecture: E. Bennett Walsh
- A project pitching workshop conducted in collaboration with Motion Picture Association (MPA)
- Project Pitching Workshop Judges: Stephen JENNER (Vice President), E. Bennett WALSH (Producer), Janice CHUA (Imagine Entertainment Vice President)

⑦ CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy Network

- Alumni Networking Dinner

3. 2023 CHANEL X BIFF Asian Film Academy Award Recipients

① CHANEL X BAFA Promising Filmmaker Award

- Recipient: Samara SAGYNBAEVA (Kyrgyzstan)
- Recipient: Sadeq ES-HAQI (Iran)

② ARRI Award

- Recipient: Amar MAHARJAN (Nepal)
- Recipient: Yiyao Kelsey ZHU (China)

③ MPA Award

- Recipient (1st Place): Pascale ASMAR (Lebanon)
- Recipient (2nd Place): NGUYEN PHAN Linh Dan (Vietnam)



ii. Asia Contents Awards & Global OTT Awards

- Held at the BIFF Theater of the Busan Cinema Center, approximately 2,786 audience gathered
- Expanded award coverage from Asia to worldwide, collaborating with the International OTT Festival co-hosted by the Ministry of Science and ICT and Busan Metropolitan City
- Contents spanning over various genres were awarded across 17 categories, honoring 24 content pieces and individuals. Awardees include *Moving*, which won the Best Creative, and *The Glory*, *Scoop*, and *Weak Hero Class 1*

1. Asia Contents Awards & Global OTT Awards Final Report Statistics

- Date: 18:00, Oct 8 (Sun), 2023
- Venue: BIFF Theater, Busan Cinema Center

2. Asia Contents Awards & Global OTT Awards Winners

NO	Category	Receptient
1	Best Creative	<i>MOVING</i>
2	Best OTT Original	<i>Weak Hero Class 1</i>
3	Best Asian TV Series	<i>Scoop</i>
4	Best Reality & Variety	<i>LET'S FEAST VIETNAM</i>
		<i>Physical: 100</i>
5	Best Director	XIN Shuang, <i>The Long Season</i>
6	Best Writer	Kangfull, <i>MOVING</i>
7	Best Lead Actor	RYU Seung Ryong, <i>MOVING</i>
	Best Lead Actress	Karishma TANNA, <i>Scoop</i>
8	Best Supporting Actor	HSUEH Shih-Ling, <i>Taiwan Crime Stories</i>
	Best Supporting Actress	LIM Ji-yeon, <i>The Glory</i>



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9	Best Newcomer Actor	LEE Jung Ha, <i>MOVING</i>
	Best Newcomer Actress	GO Youn Jung, <i>MOVING</i>
10	Best Visual Effects	<i>MOVING</i>
11	Creative Beyond Border	<i>EXchange2</i>
		<i>One Day Off</i>
12	New Technology	TVING
13	Special Contribution for K-Contents	VIU
		wave Americas
14	Special Contribution for OTT Industry	WATCHA
15	Lifetime Achievement Award	KIM Jonghak
16	Asian Excellence Award	YAGIRA Yuya
17	Rising Star of the Year	WEN JunHui
		Buffy CHEN



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V. Asian Contents & Film Market (ACFM) Summary

A total of 2,479 people from 49 countries participated in the 2023 Asian Contents & Film Market. This marks a record-breaking participation rate, having increased by 223 registrants compared to last year - excluding press and festival invitees who were registered to access online screenings, and only including business-associated participants. Increased by 30% since the previous year, the exhibition hall was filled with 271 institutions and companies from 23 countries, actively promoting and selling diverse contents. Notably, the Asian Project Market selected 30 narrative feature film projects from 13 countries, which led to a record-breaking 826 meetings, which has increased by 17% since last year.

As for the Busan Story Market, 50 Original IPs from Korea and Asia held 1,000 meetings, leading to business feats such as Toyou's Dream, one of the IP agencies that participated as an individual booth, signing a webtoon and audiovisual co-production agreement with a global content production studio, Whynot Media.

Additionally, about 20 market conferences, 11 programs from Platform BUSAN, and the new PB Lounge provided opportunities for networking and exchange of information specialized from each industry, and strengthened its function as a business platform for not only Korea, but all of Asia's film and audiovisual production and sales.

1. Asian Contents & Film Market Summary

- Market Badges: 49 countries, 918 companies, 2,479 participants.
- Sales Booths: 98 sales booths from 271 companies of 23 countries
 - 32 companies joined for the first time, including the Pavilion of Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan and Austria.
- Online Screenings
 - Market Screening: 123 films from 16 countries and 42 companies (10 market premieres)
 - Official Festival Selections: 94 Films



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2. Asian Project Market (APM)

○ 30 selections from 13 countries

○ Business Meeting: 826

17% increase in number of meetings conducted compared to 2022.

○ 140 Companies, 196 Participants

○ APM Awards: 11 Categories, 7 Awardees (Compared to 2022, 2 additional awards)

○ APM 2023 Awards Winners

Award	Project Title	Director	Producer	Production Region
Busan Award	Madness and Honey Days	Ahmed Yassin AL DARADJI	Maytham JBARA	Iraq / Canada
New Horse Award	The Botanist in the White House	JING Yi	SHAN Zuolong, QI Ai	China
ONE COOL Award	Watch It Burn	Makbul MUBARAK	Yulia Evina BHARA	Indonesia
CJ ENM Award	What's Love Got to Do with It?	HIROSE Nanako	KITAHARA Eiji, KOIDE Daiju	Japan
TAICCA Award	Filipinana	Rafael MANUEL	Jeremy CHUA	Singapore / United Kingdom / Philippines
VIPO Award	To Kill a Mongolian Horse	JIANG Xiaoxuan	TAN Chui Mui, MO Zhulin	China
ArteKino International Award	Filipinana	Rafael MANUEL	Jeremy CHUA	Singapore / United Kingdom / Philippines
KB Award	First Step	YOON Danbi	KIM Gi-hyeon	Korea
ARRI Award	What's Love Got to Do with It?	HIROSE Nanako	KITAHARA Eiji, KOIDE Daiju	Japan
Kongchak Studio Award	Filipinana	Rafael MANUEL	Jeremy CHUA	Singapore / United Kingdom / Philippines
Sørfond Award	To Kill a Mongolian Horse	JIANG Xiaoxuan	TAN Chui Mui, MO Zhulin	China



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3. Busan Story Market (BSM)

- Business meeting: 1,000 meetings
- 152 companies, 198 participants
- Booths by 10 organizations and companies from 3 countries
 - MOU with Taiwan Creative Content Agency (TAICCA) and Korea Creative Content Agency
 - Continual participation and pitching of IPs from France
 - Booths by companies including Toyou's Dream, Metacraft, and Sigongsa
 - Increased participation by official domestic and foreign organizations: TAICCA, Visual Industry Promotion Organization, Korea Creative Content Agency, Busan IT Industry Promotion Agency, Jeju Contents Agency, Korean Film Producers Association and more

4. Asian Cinema Fund (ACF)

- 14 selections supported by 3 Asian Cinema Funds (Script Development Fund, Post-Production Fund, Asian Network of Documentary (AND) Fund)
 - Participation by new cooperation partner for Post-Production Fund (Busan Film Commission) and new sponsorship by company based on Busan for Asian Network of Documentary (AND) Fund (Good Gangan Hospital)
- Busan International Film Festival World Premiere screening (4 Post-Production Fund selections, 1 AND Fund selection)
 - *To Kill a Mongolian Horse*, supported by Script Development Fund, won 2023 Asian Project Market Award's VIPO Award and Sørfond Award



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5. Platform BUSAN

- 24 countries, 115 participants
- Filmmaker's Talk and Producers' Talk provided practical support for independent filmmakers by sharing filmmaking strategies spanning directing, co-production, post production service. Offered networking program to facilitate future collaborations between up-and-coming independent filmmakers.
- Programs co-hosted with collaborative organizations such as the Visual Industry Promotion Organization (VIPO), Malaysian Development Lab for Fiction Feature Films (mylab), European Film Promotion (EFP) and Ties That Bind (TTB).

6. Asian Contents & Film Market (ACFM) Conference

- 30 conferences hosted (9 pitches, 10 Platform BUSAN, 2 technology seminars, 6 forums, 3 networking events)
- *The Journey To Gyeongju* directed by Kim Mijo won 2023 Rising Films International Awards, a new award ceremony,