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**SOUTH KOREAN DIRECTOR KWAK KYUNG-TAEK TO RECEIVE THE FIRST-EVER
ACHIEVEMENT IN DIRECTING AWARD; KWAK'S "A LOVE" WILL HOLD ITS
INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE WITH ACTOR JU JIN-MO IN ATTENDANCE AT THE 27TH
ANNUAL LOUIS VUITTON HAWAII INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (HIFF)**

HONOLULU – The 27th Annual Louis Vuitton Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF), the premier international film event in the Pacific, will honor South Korean director Kwak Kyung-Taek with the organization's first-ever "ACHIEVEMENT IN DIRECTING" award during the upcoming hallmark fall festival scheduled to take place on the island of Oahu from October 18 -28. In addition, HIFF is honored to unveil the director's latest film, A LOVE, starring Ju Jin-Mo (200 POUND BEAUTY) to the international audience.

Kwak Kyung-Taek's FRIEND, which he wrote and directed in 2001, was a box office sensation that continues to rank in the top 5 of the highest grossing films in South Korean history. His subsequent films -- CHAMPION in 2002, MUTT BOY in 2004, and the big-budget TYPHOON in 2005 – received critical and international acclaim which helped in cementing the director's reputation with the global movie-going audience.

Kwak is fresh off the latest success of A LOVE, which just hit the number 1 spot in Korea's box office rankings. **The award presentation will take place during the film's international premiere on**



Wednesday, October 24 at the Hawaii Theater, with both the director and its leading actor Ju Jin-Mo (200 POUND BEAUTY) in attendance. A LOVE is also nominated for HIFF's Halekulani Golden Orchid award for Best Feature Film for 2007.

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Filled with insight and discovery, HIFF is dedicated to advancing understanding and cultural exchange among the peoples of Asia, the Pacific and North America since 1981. Each year, more than 70,000 attendees throughout Hawaii viscerally experience the sounds and images of filmmaking from around the world.

HIFF is the premier international film event in the Pacific and has won the praise of governments, filmmakers, scholars, educators, programmers and film industry leaders throughout the world. It is also the primary source for the discovery and exhibition of Asian and Pacific feature films, documentaries and videos in the nation. The festival has premiered such movies as CROUCHING TIGER HIDDEN DRAGON, ONCE WERE WARRIORS, THE PIANO, SHINE, SHALL WE DANCE, Y TU MAMA TAMBIEN, VOLVER, BABEL, THE HOST, JOINT SECURITY AREA and TWILIGHT SAMURAI.

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