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SOUTH KOREAN STAR LEE JUN-KI TO RECEIVE THE “RISING STAR” AWARD 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 award its “Rising Star” honor to South Korean actor and singer Lee Jun-Ki during the upcoming hallmark fall festival scheduled to take place on the island of Oahu from October 18 -28. HIFF will also serve as the venue for the U.S. premiere of *MAY 18TH*, Lee’s latest starring vehicle that was directed by Kim Ji-Hoon.

Lee Jun-Ki shot to international stardom with his starring role in 2005’s Korean blockbuster *THE KING AND THE CLOWN*, which became the highest grossing and the most-watched South Korean film in its country’s history. HIFF is proud to present the prestigious *RISING STAR* award, given to a young film professional or artist honoring the star’s work, media image, and iconography in the global arena, to the talented Lee who continues to amaze the international audience with his versatility. After his breakout role as Gong-gil in *THE KING AND THE CLOWN*, Lee continues to make his mark with his starring roles in the Korean remake of *FLY, DADDY, FLY*; *VIRGIN SNOW*; and television dramas including *TIME BETWEEN DOG AND WOLF*. The award, which signifies HIFF’s belief that the star’s future contribution to global cinema will elevate the medium through works of great merit and significance, will be presented at “An Evening with Lee Jun-Ki” on Friday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hawaii Theater in downtown Honolulu. The highlight of the event will be the U.S. premiere of *MAY 18TH*, a South Korean film directed by Kim Ji-Hoon



chronicling the events of the Kwangju Uprising that occurred on May 18, 1980, and one of the nominees for the Halekulani Golden Orchid Best Feature Film award 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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