



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Hawaii International Film Festival

**SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA SPONSORED BY KBFD-TV
SHOWCASES HAWAII AND INTERNATIONAL PREMIERES**

(Honolulu, HI) - Friday, October 14, 2011-- The 31st Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF) presented by Halekulani is honored to recognize films from around the world including an ASIAN SHOWCASE debuting some of Asia's best new films. For the Festival's 31st year, three Korean films have been selected for screening as a part of the SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA section sponsored by KBFD-TV.

This year, HIFF is proud to host two Hawai'i Premieres and one International Premiere including THE DAY HE ARRIVES, NIGHT FISHING and UNSTOPPABLE FAMILY. Beginning the fifth night of the festival, two of the films making their Hawai'i Premieres, THE DAY HE ARRIVES and NIGHT FISHING, will be held back to back showcasing the creative use of cinematography to feature stories filled with good and bad relationships. Entertaining the latter part of the festival, UNSTOPPABLE FAMILY makes its International Premiere with a fun-filled comedy that brings us into a fictional story outside of the Korean mafia. KBFD-TV, a Korean TV-station based in Honolulu, is also sponsoring the Festival's opening night film, THE FRONT LINE, and two other films that are up for Halekulani Golden Orchid Awards, ARIRANG and HANAAN.

With technology on the rise, director Chan-Wook Park's breaks the mold by using a smart phone to create a short film that brings to life a fantasy horror story introducing audiences to the world of shamanism. NIGHT FISHING stars Korean pop star Jung-hyun Lee as a shaman who creates a relationship with a fisherman, played by Korean actor Gwang-rok Oh, seeking information about his past and family. This film joins the night with another featured film, THE DAY HE ARRIVES, which is also making its Hawai'i Premiere. Acclaimed director, Sang-soo Hong introduces a drama in which viewers can relate to involving the different type of relationships many encounter in life. Starring Sang-jun Kim as Seong-jun, an accomplished professor re-encounters the people from his past and creates new relationships during a three-day trek through the city of Seoul.

The World Premiere film in SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA is UNSTOPPABLE FAMILY, a Korean comedy directed by Tae-won Chung. This film comes as the fourth in a series playing off the original movie MARRYING THE MAFIA. Character Deok-ja Hong, played by actress Soo-mi Kim, attempts to take her family on vacation outside of the crime-driven world she had been so accustomed to, only to realize her mafia past popped up in every aspect of her family's lives. Filled with comedic family drama, UNSTOPPABLE FAMILY is made to bring its audience laughter and heart-warming moments.

FILM SYNOPSES: (All screening times subject to change)

THE FRONT LINE

GO-JI-JUN

Opening Night Film

United States Premiere

Thursday, October 13 | 8:00 PM | Regal Dole (To be shown on two screens)
South Korea 2011 | Korean with English subtitles | 133M

DIRECTOR: Hun Jang

CAST: Ha-kyun Shin, Ko Soo, Je-hun Lee, Chang-seok Ko, Seung-soo Ryu, David Lee

In THE FRONT LINE, Shin Ha-gyun (SAVE THE GREEN PLANET!) plays a young officer sent to the area to investigate a possible spy and what looks like a sinister case of "friendly fire." The surprises awaiting him include a reunion with an old friend he believed dead, several run-ins with a crack North Korean sniper, rife indiscipline and insubordination... and a surprising kind of fraternization between the two sides.

HANAAN

United States Premiere

Halekulani Golden Orchid Award: Narrative Feature Nominee

Friday, October 14 | 6:00 PM | Regal Dole
Friday, October 21 | 3:45 PM | Regal Dole
South Korea, Uzbekistan 2011 | Korean, Russian, Uzbek with English subtitles | 84 M

DIRECTOR: Ruslan Pak

CAST: Dmitry Eum, Ilbek Faiziev, Bahodir Musaev, Ruslan Pak, Stanislav Tyan

Stas is an undercover agent with a dark past. Becoming enraged by the corruption of the force, he quits his job and quickly acquires a serious heroin problem. Stas must fight to reclaim his life and find a place to call home. Director Ruslan Pak delivers a gritty, realistic drama set within a historically unique period of cultural collision.

ARIRANG

Hawaii Premiere

Halekulani Golden Orchid Award: Documentary Feature Nominee

Saturday, October 15 | 9:15 PM | Regal Dole
South Korea 2011 | Korean with English subtitles | 100M

DIRECTOR: Ki-duk Kim

CAST: Ki-duk Kim

ARIRANG is a true solo effort, with Kim acting as director, photographer, editor, subject and actor. As his confinement persists, the film veers from a video diary into the realm of fantasy, pushing the limits of what we expect from the documentary form. Kim invests himself so completely in his work that, just as his life has come apart, so too do the hinges that separate reality and art.

THE DAY HE ARRIVES
BOOK-CHON-BANG-HYANG

Hawaii Premiere
Spotlight on Korea

Monday, October 17 | 9:15 PM | Regal Dole
South Korea 2011 | Korean with English subtitles | 79M

DIRECTOR: Sang-soo Hong
CAST: Sang-jung Kim, Sunmi Song, Jan-sung Yu

Former filmmaker, Seong-jun travels to Seoul to pay a visit to a close friend. When the latter doesn't answer his calls, he starts wandering aimlessly around the city. One of Korea's best known and most original directors, Hong Sang-soo employs a light touch and a sizeable dose of humour to comment not only on the film environment, which he knows inside out, but also on our attempts to give meaning to entirely random episodes in our lives.

Preceded by
NIGHT FISHING
PARANMANJANG
Hawaii Premiere
Spotlight on Korea

South Korea 2011 | Korean with English subtitles | 33M

DIRECTOR: Chan-wook Park, Chan-Kyong Park
CAST: Hwan-hwi Kim, Bo-ra Kim, Jung-hyun Lee, Yong-nyeo Lee, Gwang-rok Oh

Shot entirely on the iPhone 4, Chan-wook Park's NIGHT FISHING centers around a fisherman (Park regular Oh Gwang-rok) who reels in a fish that transforms into a young woman once touching land (actor/pop star Lee Jung-hyun, in a great performance). She begins talking to him of his long-lost daughter, and it only gradually becomes apparent that she is a shaman acting as a medium between the land of the living and the dead.

UNSTOPPABLE FAMILY
KAMUN-EUI YOUNG KWANG 4: KAMUN-EUI SUNAN

International Premiere
Spotlight On Korea

Friday, October 21 | 9:00 PM | Regal Dole

Sunday, October 23 | 12:00 PM | Regal Dole
South Korea 2011 | Korean with English subtitles | 120M

DIRECTOR: Tae-won Chung

CAST: Soo-mi Kim, Hyun-joon Shin, Jae-hoon Tak

After leaving the ruthless mobster world, the Hong family leads a life of ease running a successful food company. When they are no longer banned to leave the country, Madame Hong decides that it's time that they take a vacation overseas, on their first trip abroad. With a series of unexpected events heading their way, the Hong family set on their journey of ordeal.

The 31st Hawaii International Film Festival presented by Halekulani will feature 212 films from 43 different countries and will be held at the Regal Dole Cannery Stadium 18 Theatres & IMAX from October 13-23. Tickets are on sale now to HIFF Ohana members and the general public. General admission tickets will be available for \$12 or \$10 for students, seniors, children, and military. Tickets may be purchased in person at the guest services desk at Regal Dole Cannery Stadium 18 Theatres & IMAX or by phone at (808) 447-0577.

Hawaii International Film Festival:

Established in 1981, the Hawaii International Film Festival is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of cultural exchange and media awareness in the Pacific Rim. HIFF is a premier international film event that has won the praise of governments, filmmakers, scholars, educators, programmers and film industry leaders across the globe. HIFF's programming has two particular mandates: to be a festival of record for emerging films from Asia and the Pacific, and to present the top festival films from around the world, annually screening films from over 45 countries. HIFF also presents content and panels in the fields of film and music, and mobile entertainment and gaming. These transmedia programs reflect HIFF's commitment to exhibiting innovative creative content coming from the Asia Pacific Rim. For more information visit hiff.org.

HIFF's major sponsors are: Halekulani Hotels & Resorts, Regal Entertainment Group, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Hawaii, Hawaii Tourism Authority, The Vilcek Foundation, and EuroCinema Hawaii.

Photos of all the films in the Hawaii International Film Festival presented by Halekulani can be found [HERE](#).