PRESENTED BY THE CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICAN MEDIA

CAAMFEST35

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Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow - Celebrating 35 Years of Festivals

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9, 2017 – While every birthday is special, turning 35 is a proud moment for <u>CAAMFest 2017</u>. "CAAMFest 2017 will truly be a milestone for our organization and community," says the <u>Center for Asian American Media</u>'s Executive Director, Stephen Gong. "We've come such a long way since our inception in the 1980s. Our dedication to the advancement of Asian American media has grown in strength and breadth, and our resolve is stronger than ever as we continually evolve our platform for Asian and Asian American voices through a diverse and interactive media of film, music and food."

Revisit four powerful films from the CAAMFests of yesterday, and enjoy a month-long showcase of over a dozen films streaming online as a special treat in addition to the Festival.

35TH ANNIVERSARY FILMS:

THE FALL OF THE I-HOTEL

- Directed by <u>Curtis Choy</u>
- Explores the impacts of urban renewal with the story of 50 old-timers who were displaced by 300 cops in the dead of night, marking the destruction of the last block of San Francisco's Manilatown.
- Preceded by short, ASIANS IN AMERICA: IN THREE PARTS, by Leah Nichols.

WHO KILLED VINCENT CHIN?

- Directed by <u>Christine Choy</u> and <u>Renee Tajima-Peña</u>
- Academy Award-nominated documentary that explores the aftermath of the violent murder of <u>Vincent Chin</u> at the hands of two white men who were convicted but never served a day in prison. A stunning examination of the impact of Chin's death and flaws in the justice system.

YELLOW

- Directed by Chris Chan Lee
- CAAMFest 2017 marks the 20th anniversary of YELLOW, the story of eight high school friends who go on a wild and desperate scavenger hunt to help a friend who was

robbed. Starring a young John Cho in his early film career.

FILMMAKER FROM OUR FIRST FESTIVAL: SPOTLIGHT - EMIKO OMORI: Documentarian Emiko Omori's award-winning career spans decades, including CAAM's very first Festival in 1981. CAAMFest spotlights two of Omori's films that uncover fascinating stories and perspectives, and show her growth as a filmmaker over the years.

- RABBIT IN THE MOON, an award-winning documentary on Japanese American internment, explores Omori's own childhood experiences within the camps and the complex, political tensions between the generations held there.
- WHEN RABBIT LEFT THE MOON, a poetic follow-up to RABBIT IN THE MOON, is a short film that pays tribute to the generation of Omori's parents.

COMCAST CINEMA ASIAN AMERICA: Celebrate CAAMFest's 35th anniversary all March long with Comcast Cinema Asian America, featuring over a dozen films from past festivals, streaming directly to you.

TICKETING INFORMATION:

Ticket prices for regular screenings range from \$12-\$14, excluding special events and galas. Tickets can be purchased by CAAM Members online beginning February 9 and open to the general public on February 13. All attendees can purchase tickets at the CAAMFest box office at the Alamo Drafthouse beginning March 3. Learn about member pricing, discounts and more on the Box Office & Ticketing Information webpage.

Purchase tickets and learn more at www.caamedia.org

About CAAMFest:

CAAMFest, formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), celebrates its 35th year, March 9-19, 2017 in the Bay Area. CAAMFest showcases film, music, food and digital media from the world's most innovative Asian and Asian American artists.

About CAAM:

CAAM (Center for Asian American Media) is a non-profit organization dedicated to presenting stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences to the broadest audience possible. CAAM does this by funding, producing, distributing and exhibiting works in film, television and digital media. For more information on CAAM, please visit www.caamedia.org.

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