

CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICAN MEDIA PRESENTS

# CAAMFEST2014

MARCH 13-23 | CAAMEDIA.ORG

## ***Famed Filmmakers, Forgotten Pioneers and Funky Music Form a Full Slate of Chinese and Chinese American Titles at CAAMFest 2014***

**San Francisco, Feb. 13** — Chinese and Chinese American cinema continues to have a strong presence at CAAMFest 2014 with an impressive array of renowned filmmakers. Director Grace Lee (JEANENE FROM DES MOINES and THE GRACE LEE PROJECT) whose newest feature, and this year's Centerpiece, AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY: THE EVOLUTION OF GRACE LEE BOGGS, celebrates the extraordinary life of activist, author, philosopher and feminist pioneer Grace Lee Boggs. Legendary filmmaker Ang Lee (CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON, LIFE OF PI), will be acknowledged with a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary showcase of his classic culinary drama EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN. BEAUTIFUL 2013 weaves together the visions of several directors, while Louisa Wei's documentary GOLDEN GATE GIRLS uncovers the fascinating story of one of Hollywood's forgotten Chinese American directors, Esther Eng.

### **FAMED FILMMAKERS**

Spotlight filmmaker Grace Lee returns with her stunning new documentary, AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY: THE EVOLUTION OF GRACE LEE BOGGS, a salute to Grace Lee Boggs. At age 98, Boggs shares her experiences as an outspoken advocate for the rights of African Americans and her dedication for a more just future for all. Lee, who will be in attendance, will also participate in a special conversation about her work, including the 2007 horror-comedy AMERICAN ZOMBIE, also screening at CAAMFest.

The anthology, BEAUTIFUL 2013 features the talents of Wu Nien-jen, Lu Yue, Mabel Cheung and Kurasawa Kiyoshi. The quartet of stories include an oddball boss who falls for a dockworker with a kung fu secret; a beleaguered family man with an existential crisis; a chosen son deciphering good from evil; and a nightclub performer handling a disregarded daughter gone rogue.

In Ang Lee's critically acclaimed EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN, tells the story of master Chinese chef Mr. Chu, his three daughters have and their extravagant Sunday night dinners. Each week, the family meal quickly turns into an "announcement" session, where Confucian traditions meet and clash with modern love and the unpredictability of life.

With a series of critically acclaimed shorts in his repertoire, writer-director J.P. Chan makes his feature film debut with A PICTURE OF YOU, a dramedy that introduces us to two estranged siblings attempt to reconcile their differences over a weekend packing up their late mother's lakehouse.

### **FORGOTTEN PIONEER**

Louisa Wei's GOLDEN GATE GIRLS goes behind the camera to reveal the untold story of Esther Eng, one of the first female Chinese American directors in the United States. Born in San Francisco, the slick-haired Eng drew her inspiration from the traditional Chinese opera, directing and producing her first films by the age of 19. Louisa Wei is expected to be in attendance.

### **A LITTLE SONG AND DANCE**

Hao Wu's documentary THE ROAD TO FAME follows a senior class from one of China's most prestigious drama schools. Overseen by an American director, the students compete for roles in a production of the

1980s musical FAME.

Filled with funk, style and fun, Adam Wong's THE WAY WE DANCE dives into the Hong Kong hip-hop dance scene via the charming eyes of its lead protagonist who spends her days working at her family's tofu shop, while daydreaming about her own colorful, pop-and-lockin' dance world.

#### **SPONSORS**

AARP, Asian Americans for Civil Rights & Equality ("AACRE"), Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office, Taipei Economic & Cultural Office, NBC Bay Area, 96.5 KOIT

#### **GENERAL FESTIVAL INFORMATION**

CAAMFest is a presentation of the Center for Asian American Media. CAAMFest, formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), is a celebration of film, music, food and digital media from the world's most innovative Asian and Asian American artists. CAAMFest takes place March 13-23, 2014 in San Francisco, Oakland and Berkeley. San Francisco venues include: Castro Theatre, 429 Castro Street; Sundance Kabuki Cinemas, 1881 Post Street; New People Cinema, 1746 Post Street; Great Star Theater, 636 Jackson Street; Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin Street; 111 Minna Gallery, 111 Minna Street; Pa'ina Lounge & Restaurant, 1865 Post Street; Brick & Mortar, 1710 Mission Street; Slate Bar, 2925 16<sup>th</sup> Street; Oakland venues include: The New Parkway Theater, 474 24<sup>th</sup> Street; Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street; Vessel Gallery, 471 25<sup>th</sup> Street; Berkeley venues include: Pacific Film Archive Theater, 2575 Bancroft Way.

#### **FESTIVAL TICKET INFORMATION**

Excluding special events, panels, galas and special screenings, advanced general admission tickets are \$12. Students, seniors (65+) and disabled adults are \$11 (Limit 1 per program with ID only). Tickets for Center for Asian American Media members are \$10 (Limit 2 per program per ID). There is a \$1.50 service charge for all tickets purchased online. Tickets go on sale to CAAM members only on Thursday, February 13, 2014 (online only) and open to the general public beginning Monday, February 17, 2014 (online only). Tickets can be purchased in person at our CAAMFest box office at Sundance Kabuki Cinemas starting Thursday, February 27, 2014.

#### **About CAAMFest:**

CAAMFest, formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), takes place March 13-23, 2014 in the San Francisco Bay Area. CAAMFest is a celebration of 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](http://www.caamedia.org).

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