



18th Annual Vancouver Asian Film Festival Opens with **MAN FROM RENO**

Festival Runs November 6-9, 2014 at the Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas

Vancouver, BC—October 6, 2014—The Vancouver Asian Film Festival (VAFF) is proud to announce that **MAN FROM RENO** will be kicking off its much anticipated 18th Annual celebration of Asian filmmaking from November 6th to 9th, 2014 at Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas in Vancouver. The Canadian premiere of **MAN FROM RENO** marks the return of director Dave Boyle to Vancouver screens, and his first feature-length film in the thriller genre after cult favourites *WHITE ON RICE* and *SURROGATE VALENTINE* (both Canadian premieres at VAFF in previous years).

Idiosyncratic and engrossing, **MAN FROM RENO** is a Japanese and English-language neo-noir thriller that unfolds in the back streets of San Francisco. In a small town south of the city, Sheriff Paul Del Moral, played by Pepe Serna (*White on Rice*, *Black Dahlia*) is driving home through the fog when he accidentally strikes a pedestrian, a lone Japanese man. Before an investigation can take place, the man disappears from the hospital without a trace. Meanwhile Japanese mystery author Aki Akahori, played by Ayako Fujitani (from *Daylight Savings*, the sequel to *Surrogate Valentine*), takes a trip to San Francisco to escape the press tour for her latest book—a potboiler in her world famous "Inspector Takabe" series. Feeling lonely and vulnerable, she begins a romantic affair with a mysterious Japanese traveler from Reno (Kazuki Kitamura). Her new lover is charismatic and charming but abruptly disappears from the hotel, leaving behind his suitcase and a trail of questions....

Preceding **MAN FROM RENO** is **TELE**, a short film revealing the strange story of a young man who struggles to find his way back home after enduring episodes of spontaneous teleportation.

"This year's VAFF aims to be thought-provoking," stated Grace Chin, festival director. "This year's theme, *What's Your Perspective?*, challenges our audience to examine the lens with which they look inward, as well as outward at the world - similar to how filmmakers bring their unique perspectives to their work. This year, we have 38 films that include feature-length films, documentaries and shorts produced by Vancouver, Canadian, American and international filmmakers. The VAFF 2014 lineup includes an impressive 9 world premieres, 2 North American premieres, 3 Canadian premieres and 2 Vancouver premieres.

Tickets are available online at www.vaff.org, or at the VAFF table located in the foyer of the Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas starting November 6th. There will also be VIP passes available online for \$88 in advance of the festival or \$150 during the festival. All VAFF VIP pass holders will receive complimentary, priority access to all film screenings and special events at the festival and have the chance to mingle with filmmakers, actors and other industry guests. Visit www.vaff.org or email info@vaff.org for more information.

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Screeners are available upon request.

Follow the festival as it unfolds at:

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About the Vancouver Asian Film Festival

The Vancouver Asian Film Festival Society (VAFF) is a not-for-profit organization that celebrates diversity in film by providing a forum for independent Canadian and American Asian filmmakers to showcase their work to Asian and non-Asian audiences in Vancouver. The oldest Asian film festival in Canada, it was founded by independent filmmaker and writer Barbara K. Lee in 1995 and debuted in September 1997. VAFF is entirely organized and produced by a group of dedicated volunteers, and is made possible through support from community partnerships and generous financial support from corporate sponsors, public funders and private donors. Organizers are expecting close to 4,000 audience members over the four-day festival.

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