



19th Annual Vancouver Asian Film Festival Launches Film Industry Seminar Series

VAFF 19 Runs November 5-8, 2015 at the Cineplex Odeon International Village

Vancouver, BC—September 24, 2015—The 19th Annual Vancouver Asian Film Festival (VAFF 19) is proud to launch the **VAFF INDUSTRY INSIGHT SEMINAR SERIES (VAFF I²)**, a new initiative in partnership with both established and emerging local industry professionals, business and groups, as part of its celebration of Asian diaspora and diversity in film taking place November 5–8, 2015 at the Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas, 88 W. Pender St., in Vancouver’s historic Chinatown.

The VAFF Industry Insight Seminar Series (VAFF I²) is an afternoon of professional development seminars and business networking, offering insight for independent filmmakers, producers and investors to current industry issues, and addresses the increasingly international, diverse filmmaking, post production, digital entertainment and distribution landscape of the West Coast. Open to VAFF Industry, Filmmaker and VIP Passholders, and to festival ticket holders with membership, panel topics this year include how independent filmmakers can take advantage of Vancouver’s rapid evolution into a post production and visual effects hub, and how to capitalize on emerging opportunities for international distribution/co-production.

The **VAFF I² POST PRODUCTION PANEL** of filmmaking and post-production professionals looks into the current state of tech to discuss how to make the most of today’s indie budgets, starting with deliverables and working backwards through the production process. The panel will explore the importance of defining post workflow and delivery requirements during preproduction; genre impact (e.g. narrative vs documentary) on deliverables and workflows; how to use technology and scheduling to maximize available hours in post, while diminishing potential headaches; and offer expert perspectives on future directions.

The **VAFF I² INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION/CO-PRODUCTION PANEL** of players from both the traditional and emerging worlds of distribution, and some of Vancouver’s working independent producers, will address the expanding international distribution options for independent filmmakers; how to create integrated platforms tailored to your film’s distribution and monetization goals; practical insights into international co-production for independent films; as well as future directions in international independent film distribution/co-production.

“We are extremely excited for this year’s 19th festival,” stated Grace Chin, festival director. “VAFF is gearing up for its 20th anniversary celebration next year, and this year’s program continues to showcase the breadth and depth of Asian diaspora filmmaking beyond the stereotypes and mainstream film festival offerings, with programming that additionally reflects the increasingly borderless creative and industry sensibility of Canada’s west coast. Our industry seminar series launches this year as well, geared toward independent and filmmakers interested in the opportunities presented by the international distribution market for our films.”

VAFF 19 asks, “What’s Your Role [in your Community]?” with a lineup that invites us to examine the complications within the search for personal and cultural identity. The festival’s nine film programs include 37 feature-length and short films of all genres, with English dialogue or English subtitles, from the Asian diaspora—including a world premiere, 5 North American premieres and 13 Canadian premieres. An additional 9 films are Vancouver premieres. Twenty filmmakers, from Canada and internationally, are expected to attend. Organizers anticipate close to 4,000 audience and industry members over the four-day festival.

VANCOUVER ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL | 4862 PINE CRESCENT, VANCOUVER, B.C. V6J 4L3

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The 19th Annual Vancouver Asian Film Festival will take place November 5–8, 2015, at the Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas at 88 West Pender Street in Vancouver's historic Chinatown. Close to 4,000 audience members and media are expected to attend the four-day festival. New this year, is the VAFF Industry Insight Seminar Series: panel topics include how independent filmmakers can take advantage of Vancouver's rapid evolution into a post production hub, and how to capitalize on emerging opportunities for international distribution/co-production.

Tickets are available online at www.vaff.org beginning October 8 and at the VAFF Box Office at the Cineplex Odeon International Village lobby starting November 5. VIP passes are available online for \$88 in advance, or \$150 during the festival. All VAFF VIP pass holders will receive 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. Media can request screeners, film stills, and further information by emailing media@vaff.org.

Follow the festival as it unfolds at:

Facebook/[VAFFVancouver](https://www.facebook.com/VAFFVancouver)

Twitter/[#VAFF2015](https://twitter.com/VAFFVancouver)

Instagram/[vaffvancouver](https://www.instagram.com/vaffvancouver)

About the Vancouver Asian Film Festival

The Vancouver Asian Film Festival Society (VAFF) is a not-for-profit organization that celebrates diversity in film. The longest-running Canadian film festival of its kind, VAFF 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 by generous financial support from corporate sponsors, public funders and private donors. Close to 4,000 people are expected to attend the four-day festival.

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