**Project Presenter** 



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# JUMP CUT INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL CURTAIN LIFTS ON THE CITY'S FIRST POP-UP FILM FESTIVAL The only festival in HK organised by teenagers 15 – 20 April 2014

This Easter, film screens will spring up in unconventional locations – a residential rooftop and an underground club in Sheung Wan, a shared workspace in Wanchai and an artist hub in Prince Edward – launching the first city-wide pop-up film festival. Organised by the Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation, the programme will feature thought-provoking local and international independent films, as well as talks and workshops led by some of the city's best film professionals. Inspired by the highly acclaimed *Glasgow Film Youth Festival*, *JUMP CUT* will also be the only film event in Asia created and run by teenagers.



Presented by an organisational committee comprising 13 local teenagers aged 15 to 20, *JUMP CUT* aims to promote independent films, a scene that remains relatively young in Hong Kong. Running over six days (15 – 20 April), screenings will take place at Blue Roof (Sheung Wan), the Hive. (Wanchai), Premium Sofa Club (Sheung Wan) and artist hub Wontonmeen (Prince Edward). The choice of venues that depart from the usual glossy cinema setting was made to connect with neighbourhood communities and tie in with the festival's theme: 'Human Connection'. 15-year-old Youth Committee President and young filmmaker Charmaine Chan says, "The idea is that we are all connected, and that we have a social responsibility for others."

The festival kicks off with two short films created by young local directors Kiki Wong and Ivan Li. Both films stood out in the *JUMP CUT Youth Edition Open Call* for their sophisticated use of cinematography and direction. In 2012, Chinese University student Wong attracted attention with a provocative film of the six days she spent roaming Hong Kong with only \$70 in her pockets, hitchhiking and sleeping on the streets. For *JUMP CUT* she presents her latest creation *Room 12*, which won Best Director, Best Actress and Best Cinematography at Taiwan's *9th Golden Sugarcane Film Festival*. Li, an award-winning (*UNICEF's Believe in Zero, Make a Video; International Student Film Festival Hollywood*) budding filmmaker and student at Hong Kong University Graduate Association College presents *The Legend*, a documentary about the need to preserve Pokfulam Village, one of the oldest villages in Hong Kong.

JUMP CUT offers films for all tastes and ages. International hits include the dramatic thriller *Disconnect* (USA), the Oscaraward winning biopic *Milk* (USA), and the hard-hitting, BAFTA-winning *City of God* (Brazil). From closer to home there is sci-fi animation *Paprika* (Japan) and the Singaporean family sensation *I Not Stupid*. Representing Hong Kong are the politically driven *6th March* (Best Script, *Fresh Wave – International Short Film Festival*), inspired by the director's own protesting experience, and the oceanic documentary *The New Northwest Passage* (Canada/HK), an expedition that was made possible because of climate change. *Submarine*, the funny, stylish UK indie hit that took the world by storm closes the festival.

Each feature film is preceded by a screening of short animations selected from *ifva 2013* and *2012* finalists. Post-show talks will offer audiences the opportunity to meet some of the directors of works being screened. On Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 April, film professionals Martin Chappell, Montagut Chuen and Heiward Mak will run public workshops on sound design, animation and media advocacy. Sound designer **Martin Chappell** has worked with some of the most prolific directors in Hong Kong including Johnnie To, Ringo Lam and Tsui Hak. **Heiward Mak**, who at the age of 23 was Hong Kong's youngest-ever feature film director, was named by CNN Travel as one of Hong Kong's 20 people to watch. Renowned multi-media designer, **Montagut Chuen**, is also a cancer veteran whose life story has inspired a local theatre production.

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation's Founder and Artistic Director **Lindsey McAlister** said, "Going to the movies used to be an alternative to school, now it can *be* school. *JUMP CUT* comes at a key time when Hong Kong has recognised the need to nurture and support film and arts industry talent among the next generation. By organising this festival, the youth committee have learnt new skills – film criticism, media literacy and arts administration. Their choice of films demonstrates their maturity and ability to make informed artistic decisions. *JUMP CUT* gives great insight into the issues that intrigue and are important to young people in Hong Kong today."

All screenings are free, with pre-registration required. Everyone is welcome to bring along their own food and drinks.

Download JUMP CUT committee images and film stills here: http://ftp.hkyaf.com/press@hkyaf.com/HKYAF\_JUMP\_CUT\_Photos.zip

## NOTES TO EDITORS

## Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation's JUMP CUT Independent Film Festival

15 – 20 April 2014
Venues: The Hive, Premium Sofa Club, Blue Roof and Wontonmeen
Full programme details in supplementary document
Admission free, pre-registration required at <u>kerryL@hkyaf.com</u> / 2877 2656

#### Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (YAF) <u>www.hkyaf.com</u> is a charity that provides high quality, non-competitive arts experiences for all young people aged 5 to 25. Established in 1993 by Lindsey McAlister, OBE, YAF organises inclusive and inspirational projects that reach out to young people of all cultures, backgrounds, languages and abilities, and actively creates opportunities for disadvantaged and underprivileged young people. Each year we reach over 800,000 young people through our projects, exhibitions and performances.

#### MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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## MAIN FEATURES

#### Disconnect / USA (Director: Henry Alex Rubin)

A riveting thriller about ordinary people struggling to connect in today's wired world.

### The New Northwest Passage / Canada/HK (Director: Cameron Dueck)

A documentary about the director's voyage through the Canadian arctic. An unparalleled portrait of people and landscapes undergoing radical changes at the wildest, most dangerous and fragile end of the earth.

#### I Not Stupid / Singapore (Director: Jack Neo)

A satirical comedy featuring Terry, Boon Hok and Kok Pin, three students in the lower stream at primary school, whose friendship helps them overcome the various problems they face at school and home.

### Paprika / Japan (Director: Satoshi Kon)

A film based on a popular novel of the same name about a research psychologist who uses technology to help patients enter their dreams.

#### 6th March / HK (Director: Wong Chun)

A 30-minute conversation between three police officers and three arrested activists, inspired by the personal experiences of the director Wong Chun after being detained during a demonstration in Hong Kong.

#### Milk / USA (Director: Gus Van Sant)

The Oscar-winning biopic about Harvey Milk, an American gay activist who fought for gay rights and became California's first openly gay elected official.

#### City of God / Brazil (Director: Fernando Meirelles)

An unflinching portrayal of the dark underbelly of life in Rio de Janeiro's favelas.

#### Submarine / UK (Director: Richard Ayoade)

15-year-old Oliver Tate has two objectives: to lose his virginity before his next birthday, and to extinguish the flame between his mother and an ex-lover who has resurfaced in her life. A coming-of-age comedy-drama film.

#### JUMP CUT Youth Edition Shorts

#### Room 12 / HK (Director: Kiki Wong)

A touching film about life, death and the fate of the individuals who independently visit a single room.

#### The Legend / HK (Director: Ivan Li)

A moving documentary about Pok Fu Lam village, one of Hong Kong's oldest villages which is facing destruction threats due to urban development plans.

## SHORT FILMS

Origin / HK (Animation, director: Jessica Poon)

An animated story about a mother water droplet and her son. Life moves on irreversibly like a river moving downstream.

Demon Kills / HK (Animation, director: Mak Ying Ping)

A boy troubled by hallucinations confesses why he attempted to commit suicide at school.

**Galaman** / HK (Animation, director: Johnee Lau) A super hero and his battle for Facebook "Likes".

## One. Superhero / HK (Drama, director: Ben Tang)

A monster wreaks havoc on Earth and Superman comes to the rescue. However, he soon receives instructions from the powers-that-be that the assets of the property developers are what have to be protected first.

## Within Within / HK (Animation, director: Sharon Liu)

There are many things we cannot choose in life. One thing for sure is, no one can choose their parents. You have to learn to love them before getting to know them.

## Oh! Give Me Strength / HK (Animation, director: Pang Pui Yee)

Some people believe that eating rare wild species is good for their health. Do you?

## Half / HK (Animation, director: Lai Xueyi, Lin Hongrui)

A story about a meeting one lonely night between Mr. Eye and Miss. Eye.

## Soeng / HK (Animation, director: Lam Ho Tak)

Day after day we are occupied by work, even when we should be resting. What has happened to our dreams?