

KOFIC, The Best Partner of Korean Film



We Support Korean Films from Production to International Distribution!

KOFIC Support Program Recipients in 2010



"The LKFF is well-organised and fascinating to natives. The film festival is a substantial event which attracts intellectuals, cinemas, press and media in London. I am quite moved to simply have a film of mine screened here.."

-Park Chan-wook Film Director

"Korean cinema always lights up a film festival program and through the LKFF it gets to light up the lives of Londoners also with some of the biggest thrills, spills and laughter to be found on celluloid."

> -Kaleem Aftab Journalist, The Independent

"With Korean films at the forefront of World Cinema at the moment, the LKFF provides a key annual showcase for both the UK public and industry and as such is instrumental in bringing these films to a wider audience."

-Simon Ward Head of Programming, ICO

"For me, it has been a real delight to be able to watch some powerful examples of earlier Korean cinema along with engaged audiences of all kinds of people right here in London. LKFF 2009's retrospective of the films of Yu Hyun-mok was very special. I hope that future London Korean Film Festivals can continue to give UK film-goers access to more of the finest films from the South Korean past."

-Dr. Mark Morris Professor, Cambridge University

"The LKFF, which showcases such a wide variety of mainstream, off-beat, classic and animated films, provides British audiences with an incredibly valuable opportunity to experience the true diversity of Korean cinema. I'm very proud to be a part of it."

-Daniel Martin Lecturer, Queen's University Belfast

Welcome to the annual festival of the best of Korean Cinema

Oueen's Film Theatre

Belfast

The Korean film industry has never been better than it is now and as the Chief Executive of the festival, I am extreme proud to present the best my country has to offer.

This year's festival marks the fifth anniversary of the London Korean Film Festival which had its humble beginnings back in 2006 at the Odeon Covent garden showing a handful of films. Even though I have only been involved in the last year it is an honour in overseeing what was once a little East Asian film festival into one of the best world cinema festivals in the UK. This year we welcome three of the highest profile venues with the Opening Gala featuring The Man From Nowhere at the Odeon West End in Leicester Sq to the Apollo Piccadilly for our Jang Jin retrospective to one of Britain's top Arts venue, the Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA). With the success of last year's festival travelling to some of the top cities in the UK, this year does the same Cambridge, Cardiff and Belfast.

There is nothing more satisfying for myself to see the appreciation and love that the British audience has for world cinema and particularly Korean cinema and I am honoured to promote the excellent culture and cinema of my country in the United Kingdom.

Festival Chief Executive

Won Yonggi (Director of the Korean Cultural Centre UK)



more of the essential Korean cinema to the British shores with no fewer than 22 feature and short film screenings in London, Cambridge, Cardiff and Belfast. Take your pick, sit back, and enjoy!

Odeon West End London

London

www.koreanfilm.co.uk www.odeon.co.uk www.ica.org.uk

www.apollocinemas.com www.queensfilmtheatre.com www.picturehouses.co.uk

to commemorate this with a small selection of the best Korean War films released in the last year. 71 Into the Fire focuses on the country's youth that were dragged into the war, while A Little Pond highlights the relatively unknown No Gun Ri massacre which saw 300 refugees gunned down by the American Army.

The representation of women in East Asian cinema, particular Korean cinema, has never been widely assorted or realistic and, like the rest of the world, female directors have been very few in numbers. The

festival is excited to introduce an amazing talent, Park Chan-ok with

her second feature film *Paiu*, while a wide range of different female

roles are on display in Bedevilled, Harmony (featuring Sun from Lost)

The aim of the festival is to help promote South Korean culture through

Korean films. This festival, however, wishes to showcase a more diverse

range of cinema than simply that of the violent films - even though we love them - films with this year shining spotlights onto various different

2010 marks the 60th anniversary of the Korean War and the LKFF wishes

aspects of Korean cinema.

and The Servant.

its cinematic works, by exposing the British audience to a wealth of different films. Since 2004 with the release of *Oldboy*, there has been an explosion in Britain that has released an incredible hunger for more

A rare treat for the British public is the focus on the incredible filmmaker Jang Jin, who has previously been known in the UK with his film *Guns & Talks* (2001). This will form one of the four film retrospective, alongside *Good Morning President, Someone Special* and *Murder Take One*. This retrospective will be accompanied with several Q&A sessions with the director himself.

There are a whole host of fantastic films, including short films and animations, but the most exciting events are our Opening Gala of *The Man From Nowhere*, a Special Preview of the controversial *I Saw The Devil* and our Closing Gala, *The Housemaid*, which was highly received at this year's Cannes Film Festival.

London: 5 - 14 Nov

Odeon West End, Leicester Square

Opening Gala: The Man From Nowhere + Director Q&A Special Preview: I Saw The Devil + Director Q&A Fri 5 Nov 18.30 Sat 6 Nov 18.00



Odeon West End 40 Leicester Square, London WC2H 7LP Box office: 0871 22 44 007 www.odeon.co.uk

Apollo Cinema, Piccadilly

Jang Jin Retrospective: Guns & Talks + Director Q&A
Jang Jin Retrospective: Good Morning President + Director intro
Jang Jin Retrospective: Someone Special + Director Q&A
Jang Jin Retrospective: Murder Take One + Director intro

Mon 8 Nov 18.00 Mon 8 Nov 20.45 Tues 9 Nov 18.00 Tues 9 Nov 20.45

Sun 14 Nov

Sun 14 Nov

16.00

18.30

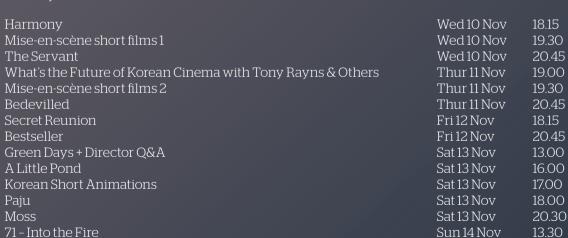


Apollo Cinema Piccadilly Circus 19 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4LR Box office: 0871 220 6000 www.apollocinemas.com

ICA, The Mall

Blades of Blood

Closing Gala: The Housemaid + Director Q&A





Institute of Contemporary Arts The Mall, London SW1Y 5AH Box office: 020 7930 3647 www.ica.org.uk

Cambridge, Cardiff & Belfast: 13 - 23 Nov

Odeon Cardiff

Secret ReunionSat 13 Nov18.30BestsellerSun 14 Nov18.30



Odeon Cardiff No. 1 Victoria Square, Unit 13SF, Belfast BT1 4QG Box office: 0871 22 44 007 www.odeon.co.uk

Arts Picturehouse, Cambridge

Гhe Housemaid + Director Q&A	Mon 15 Nov	18.30
Paju	Wed 17 Nov	18.30
A Little Pond + Discussion with Dr. Mark Morris	Sun 21 Nov	15.00
Secret Reunion	Tues 23 Nov	18.30



Arts Picturehouse, Cambridge 38-39 St Andrew's Street, Cambridge CB2 3AR Box office: 0871 902 5720 www.picturehouses.co.uk

Queen's Film Theatre, Belfast

Blades of Blood	Fri 19 Nov	18.45
Bestseller	Sat 20 Nov	21.15
Paju	Sun 21 Nov	18.45



Queen's Film Theatre, Belfast 20 University Square, Belfast BT7 1PA Box office: 028 9097 1097 - after 6pm daily 028 9097 1335 - 9.30am-5.30pm, Monday to Friday. www.queensfilmtheatre.com



The Man From Nowhere + Q&A with Director Lee Jeong-beom Festival Opening Gala

FRI 5/18:30 Odeon West End



Cha Tae-sik, a man his mid thirties, battles life as a solitarian burdened by his past. Unable to accept his previous identity as a special agent and his history of violence, Tae-sik lives a sheltered life as a pawn-shop owner, oblivious and uninfluenced by society. But in that way only possible with children, So-mi, a young girl living next door, breaks through Tae-sik's hardened layers of defence and the two bond as though brother and sister. She becomes his only connection to the rest of the world.

All is sweet and light but not for long. So-mi's mother, a hopeless addict who smuggles drugs from a local drug trafficking organization, steals some products and entrusts Tae-sik with them without his knowledge of the contents. So-mi and her mother are kidnapped and Tae-sik is mistaken for another mule. Tae-sik is subsequently forced to confront and accept his true identity to be able to save the one person who has shown and taught him genuine care.

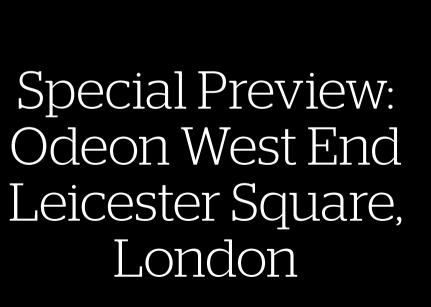
The Man From Nowhere is a gripping story not only in its discussion of the underground social issues abound in 21st century Asia - such as human trafficking, organ harvesting and drug smuggling - but also offers a touching story on the powerful bond between a man and a girl.

Directed by Lee Jeong-beom (*Cruel Winter Blues*), it is breathtakingly filmed, using a palette of dark subtle tones that reinforce the sense of desperation permeating the characters and their society. The impeccable casting of Won Bin (recently seen in the beautiful *Mother*) and Kim Sae-ron (from the award-winning *A Brand New Life*) as Tae-sik and So-mi respectively is rewarded by their outstanding performances. Won Bin once again confirms his charisma in this lead, while Kim Sae-ron proves to be a promising star of the coming generation.

The Opening Gala will be followed by a special Q&A session with the director, hosted by Tony Rayns.

Dir. Lee Jeong-beom Starring Won Bin, Kim Sae-ron South Korea, 2010, 35mm, 119min, Cert. 18





I Saw the DevilSpecial Preview+ Q&A with Director Kim Jee-woon

SAT 6/18:00 Odeon West End



By day, Kyung-chul (Choi Min-shik) is a school bus driver, happily and safely ferrying children to and from school. But this is a mask he wears because at night, he transforms into his true nature; one of the most distrubing and sadistic serial killers Korea has ever known. One evening, a young women, Ju-yeon, falls into the manic murder's sights, resulting in a brutal homicide.

Soo-hyun (Lee Byung-hun) is a federal agent and Ju-yeon his finance. Upon being informed of her death, unable to deal with his grief, Soo-hyun leaves a bloody trail in his wake as he turns the hunter into the hunted with the intention of torturing his lover's killer in the same manner she was.

Kim Jee-woon has built a successful and brilliant career with films that challenge the conventions of film genres with previous films tackling horror, westerns and noir with a powerful visual effect. He now turns his attention to the revenge film with startling effect. The film centres on the characters as opposed to the chase to find the culprit responsible as the two protagonists transform into what each loathes the most.

Choi Min-shik is electrifying as the pure evil serial killer in his return to the big screen after a five year absence. He manages to bring a fresh and invigorating dynamic to the much-seen role of serial killer. Lee Byung-hun, a fresh faced 20-year veteran of film and TV brings a nuanced and calculated polar opposite to Min-shik's ultimate killer, seamlessly shifting between cool, calm and collected to the embodiment of vengeance.

"It touches on morals and questions; whether it is right to get bloody vengeance. It could also be a love story about a man who is willing to do anything for the one he loves. But I hope the audience can just enjoy the extreme characters created by the magical union of the two talented actors."

-Kim Jee-woon

Dir. Kim Jee-woon Starring Choi Min-shik, Lee Byung-hun South Korea, 2010, 35mm, 144mins, Cert. 18



Retrospective: Jang Jin



On Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th November, the London Korean Film Festival is proud to present a retrospective of the Korean director Jang Jin.

"Jang's unique verbal humour and comic timing separate him from any other Korean director"
-Darcy Paquet

Since debuting at the Pusan International Film Festival in 1998, Jang Jin has quickly showed himself to be one of the most pivotal voices emerging from the 1990s Korean cinema renaissance.

Beginning his career in the theatre rather than cinema, Jang Jin worked on many critically acclaimed productions. There, Jang developed a distinctive style of amalgamating humour with melodrama and making astute observations of the world around him. His first film, *The Happenings* (1998), quickly made him a rising talent and he proved himself as an excellent writer as well as director, with the follow up feature *The Spy* (1999). Jang Jin soon received commercial and critical attention, not just in Korea but also in the UK and America, particularly with his 2001 film, *Guns & Talks*. One of the stars of this film, Won Bin who had been a soap actor at the time, has since gone onto great fanfare, with recent feature in Bong Joon-ho's *Mother* and also the festival's Gala opening film, *The Man From Nowhere*. Jang Jin has gone from strength to strength, producing some of Korea's most commercially successful films including his most recent production *Good Morning President* (2009), a film which looks at three completely different Presidents and each of the trials and tribulations that they face.

"In my eyes it is more fun to make people think first then laugh than simply making them laugh. I work with this view simply because I like the idea behind it."

-Jang Jin

The Jang Jin Retrospective is showing exclusively at the Apollo Cinema Piccadilly in London's West End. For tickets call the box office on 0871 220 6000 or visit www.apollocinemas.com

Retrospective: Director Jang Jin



Guns & Talk + Q&A with Director Jang Jin

MON 8 / 18:00 APOLLO PICCADILLY

A group of professional assassins for hire: Sang-yun, the cool-headed leader of the group, Jung-woo the specialist in custom-made bombs, Jae-young the unmatched sniper, and Ha-yun the computer whiz. They're not your typical wise guys, supplying a service for people of all walks of life who need someone terminated. They even have a discount rate for students.

On one particular job they leave behind a clue, attracting the attention of one, Inspector Cho to their presence. While he is hot on their trail, Sang-yun meets a client and is confronted with a dangerous order he cannot refuse. The client wants someone killed in the middle of a sold-out performance of "Hamlet" which will be attended by high-profile businessmen, politicians and law officials. Inspector Cho learns of this and sends the whole police force to catch them in the act. Still undaunted by the risks, Sang-yun leads his group in what could be the last mission they'll ever get away with.

Dir. Janh Jin Starring Won Bin, Kim Young-hun South Korea, 2001, 123mins, Cert. 15



Good Morning President
With an introduction from the Director

MON 8 / 20:45 APOLLO PICCADILLY

Good Morning President is an abridged version of the politics and life of three different presidents. The older President Kim Jung-ho at the end of his term, the young President Cha Ji-wook, a skilful manipulator of foreign policy and with great determination, and a female President Han Kyuong-ja. They are distressed over the choices they have to make between politics and ethics. The affliction of Kim Jung-ho who wins the lottery, the agony of Cha Ji-wook who donates an organ, and the troubles of Han Kyuong-ja who faces the crisis of divorce.





Someone Special + Q&A with Director Jang Jin

TUE 9/18:00 APOLLO PICCADILLY

Despite having dated a number of women, professional baseball player Dong Chi-sung has never been in love and has never been loved. Sure enough, his latest girlfriend dumps him, and on the same day, he goes to the doctor and finds out he has a malignant tumour, with only three months to live. With his mind in a tailspin, he goes to a friend's bar to drink away his pain. Not a heavy drinker, Chisung quickly passes out and wakes up to find himself in a hotel room with the strange female bartender that had been serving him all night. Confused about the strange room he finds himself in, with the strange woman and the possible strange things she might have done to him. He asks how she managed to bring him to the hotel room and she tells him she folded him up and carried him in a box. He quickly makes his exit.

This night begins a series of events forcing Chi-sung to look past the strangeness of this girl and ask the question "could she be someone special?"

Dir. Jang Jin Starring Lee Na-young, Jung Jae-young South Korea, 2004, 35mm, 107mins, Cert. 12A



*Murder Take One*With an introduction from the Director

TUE 9 / 20:45 APOLLO PICCADILLY

A homicide investigation concerning the death of a famous copywriter, Jung Yoo-jung is aired live on TV. Prosecutor Choi Yeon-gi interrogates a suspect, the only suspect, Kim Young-hoon who is quickly arrested, but something about the case just doesn't sit well with Yeon-gi.

One by one, Yeon-gi starts to put the pieces together, and finally awaits the moment of truth. Just as the culprit is about to be revealed, the producer at the TV station suggests a shamanic ritual to summon the copywriter's soul - a showcase to boost TV ratings. Yet, this proves to be pivotal as crucial information is revealed by the summoned soul.

An intense thriller and also satirical jab at the current media obsession with reality television, director Jang Jin accomplishes what he does best with taking tried and tested film scenarios and adding a unique and fresh take on the subject.

Dir Jang Jin Starring Choi Yeon-gi, Kim Young-hun South Korea, 2005, 35mm, 115mins, Cert. 15



The Housemaid + Q&A with Director Im Sang-soo Festival Closing Gala

SUN 14 / 18:30 ICA London

MON 15 / 18:30 Arts Pict. Cambridge



A glance at the internationally acclaimed director Im Sang-soo's filmography clearly reveals the director's close partnership with controversy, whether sexual, social or political. His latest film is no exception.

Im Sang-soon's remake of the classic Korean 1960s film of the same name is not only a worthy successor of the original but also a worthy contestant of the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes Festival. Re-written and directed by Im, *The Housemaid* tells the story of a destructive love triangle encountered by a young woman while working as a housemaid for an upper-class family.

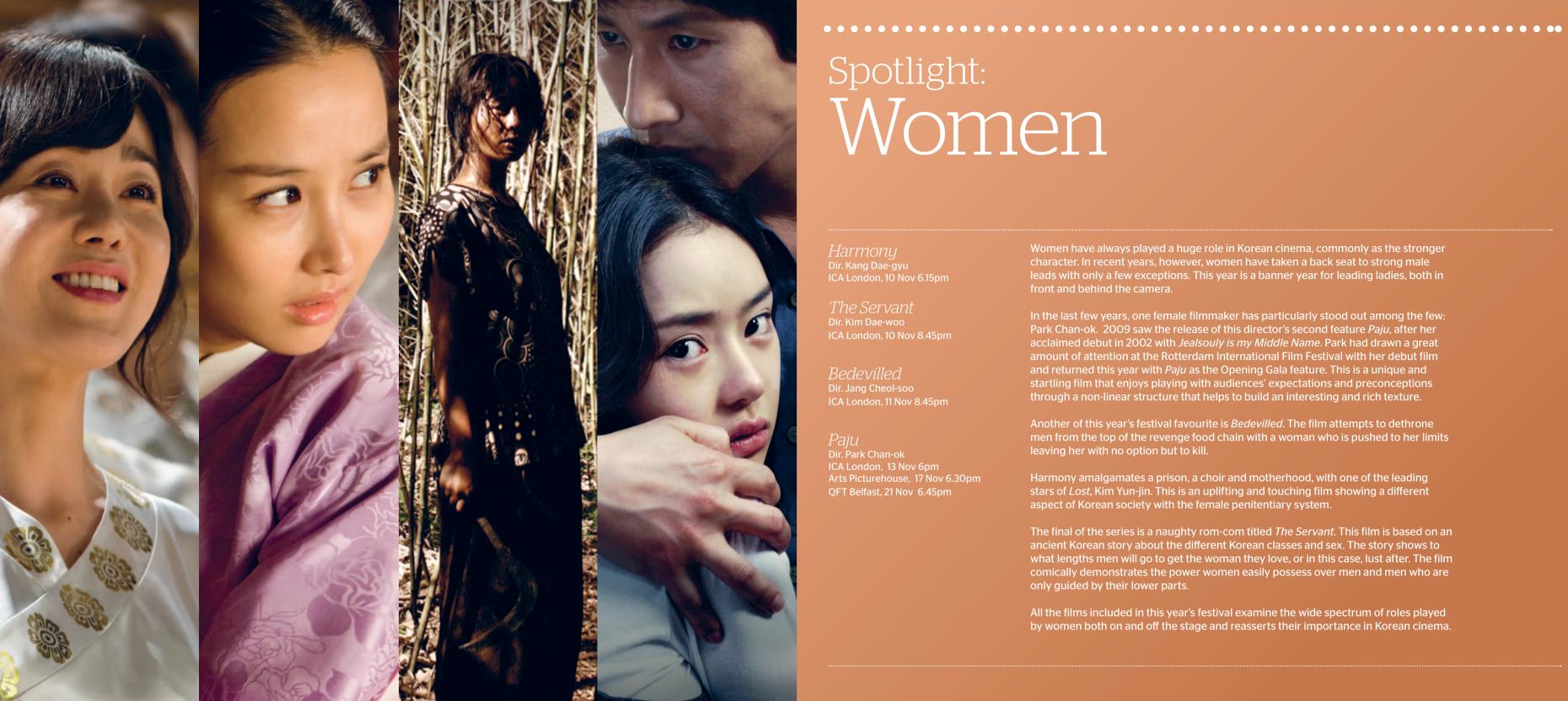
Jeon Do-yeon plays a naïve, innocent young woman who takes up the position of junior housemaid in an overtly luxurious mansion. Lee Eun-yi tends after the owners, Hoon and Hae-ra, as well as their daughter Nami. Eun-yi, however, soon becomes embroiled in a deeply erotic affair with Hoon, unleashing hidden desires she never knew existed. The consequences of the affair soon manifest and overwhelm the entire household, resulting in Eun-yi falling both pregnant and victim to the vicious jealousy of the wife.

In a film that is as sensuous as its prevailing themes demand, Im frames the story in a chic yet eerie mise-en-scene. Sharply stylized and unnervingly dark, the humour is satirical, the visual sleek, and the tone drenched in eroticism and menace. This glossy refurbishment of the original is bound to probe and question its audience about the changing social values in contemporary Korean society.

"Our main character who looks empty-headed and naïve...
What is it that she couldn't endure for the life of her?
That is...something we give and take from each other, we stomp in agony and try to forget,
But we cannot so we crush it and live on...
It is like the hard callus stuck around our soft, erogenous zones."

-Im Sang-soo

Dir. Im Sang-soo Starring Jeon Do-yeon, Seo Woo, Lee Jung-jae South Korea, 2010, 35mm, 107mins, Cert. 18



Spotlight: Women

Harmonu

Dir. Kang Dae-gyu ICA London, 10 Nov 6.15pm

Dir. Kim Dae-woo

Bedevilled

Dir. Jang Cheol-soo

Dir. Park Chan-ok ICA London, 13 Nov 6pm Arts Picturehouse, 17 Nov 6.30pm QFT Belfast, 21 Nov 6.45pm

Women have always played a huge role in Korean cinema, commonly as the stronger character. In recent years, however, women have taken a back seat to strong male leads with only a few exceptions. This year is a banner year for leading ladies, both in front and behind the camera.

In the last few years, one female filmmaker has particularly stood out among the few: Park Chan-ok. 2009 saw the release of this director's second feature *Paju*, after her acclaimed debut in 2002 with Jealsouly is my Middle Name. Park had drawn a great amount of attention at the Rotterdam International Film Festival with her debut film and returned this year with *Paju* as the Opening Gala feature. This is a unique and startling film that enjoys playing with audiences' expectations and preconceptions through a non-linear structure that helps to build an interesting and rich texture.

Another of this year's festival favourite is *Bedevilled*. The film attempts to dethrone men from the top of the revenge food chain with a woman who is pushed to her limits leaving her with no option but to kill.

Harmony amalgamates a prison, a choir and motherhood, with one of the leading stars of *Lost*, Kim Yun-jin. This is an uplifting and touching film showing a different aspect of Korean society with the female penitentiary system.

The final of the series is a naughty rom-com titled *The Servant*. This film is based on an ancient Korean story about the different Korean classes and sex. The story shows to what lengths men will go to get the woman they love, or in this case, lust after. The film comically demonstrates the power women easily possess over men and men who are only guided by their lower parts.

All the films included in this year's festival examine the wide spectrum of roles played by women both on and off the stage and reasserts their importance in Korean cinema.

Spotlight: Women





WED 10 / 18:15 ICA London

Jeong-hye is given a ten-year sentence after accidentally killing her abusive husband. In prison, she gives birth to a beautiful baby boy who brings light into not only her own life but also those of her cellmates, all of whom have unfortunate stories of their own. Jeong Hye is only allowed to keep her baby for a short period of time, and the days are counting down quickly.

To earn the chance to be allowed a day out with her son, Jeong-hye decides to start a prison choir despite not being able to hold a tune herself. Resistance is high and singing talent low, but the tone-deaf choir slowly find their groove along with their sense of self as they come together as one. But the day that Jeong-hye proves herself with the choir is also the day she has to give up her son.





The Servant

WED 10 / 20:45 ICA London

A historically based, erotic comedy from the writer of *Untold Scandal* sees Bangja, a servant of the noble man Mong-lyong, fall in love with a woman named Choon-hyang. The problem is Mong-lyong also falls in love with her and orders Bang-ja to arrange an encounter between them.

With both the Master and the Servant after the same woman, Bang-ja seeks out the advice of his elderly roommate Ma who teaches him the art of seduction. Bang-ja does win over Choon-hyang but with one condition: he is to help her marry Mong-lyong. A cute but cheeky comedy about sexual courtship and a prevalent narrative transcends the historical setting.

Dir. Kim Dae-woo Starring Jo Yeo-jung, Kim Joo-hyuck, Ryoo Seung-bum South Korea, 2010, 35mm, 124mins, Cert. 18



Bedevilled

TUE 11/20:45 ICA London

A film with excruciating suspense leading to a gore laden whirlwind of violence starts with Hae-won, a 30 something middle-management woman who with the increasing pressures of work and home situation decides to take a break from it all and return to the pleasant, remote island where she had spent happy summers with her grandparents.

Upon her arrival, she is reunited with her childhood friend Bok-nam. Although ecstatic to see her old friend, Bok-nam begs for help to escape from the island. Perplexed Hae-won ignores her pleas but is soon shocked to witness the horrific torment that Bok-nam endures every day. Each woman is stretched to their limits and it is only a matter of time before one finally and gruesomely snaps.

Dir. Jang Cheol-soo Starring Ji Sung-won, Seo Young-hee South Korea, 35mm, 115mins, Cert. 18



Paju

SAT 13 / 18:00 ICA London

WED 17 / 18:30 Arts Pict. Cambridge SUN 21 / 18:45 QFT Belfast

An activist in 1996, Joong-shik, accidently causes a horrifying injury to his lover's infant son and flees from the police to Paju, a small developing town north of Seoul. He lays low but eventually falls in love and marries Eunsoo who lives with her younger sister, Eunmo. Sadly, Eunsoo dies in an explosion which causes her sister to runaway to India.

Eunmo returns in 2003 to find Joong-sik now a leader of squatters who seems to be violently battling against the demolition of an apartment complex. A reunioned with her brother-in-law stirs up all the mixed emotions of hate, resentment, envy, and love that she once had for him, which become even more complex when she begins to believe that Joong-sik might be responsible for the death of her sister.

Dir. Park Chan-ok Starring Seo Woo, Lee Seon-gyun, Shim Yi-young South Korea, 2010, 35mm, 110mins, Cert. 15



Spotlight: War

A Little Pond

Dir. Lee Sang-woo ICA London, 13 Nov 4pm Arts Picturehouse, 21 Nov 3pm

Into the Fire
Dir. John H Lee
ICA London, 14 Nov 1.30pm

Blades of Blood Dir. Lee Joon-ik ICA London, 14 Nov 4pm QFT Belfast, 19 Nov 6.45pm 2010 marks the 60th anniversary of the Korean War and to commemorate the event, the London Korean Film Festival will be showing two films looking at the lesser known happenings during the war: 71-Into the Fire and A Little Pond. We are also featuring a comic book adaptation of Like the Moon Escaping from the Clouds, titled Blades of Blood, to highlight Korea's history of war.

South Korea's history is steeped in war, which has had a huge and lasting impact on the country's culture. War films have been a main staple of Korean cinema, much like Britain and America after the Second World War attracting some of Korea's biggest stars and talents. No stone has been left unturned as every aspect of the events during the War and the ongoing relationship with North Korea have been tackled. Whether through Park Chan-wook's humanisation of North Korean soldiers in the contemporary set, *Joint Security Area JSA* (2000), or the rift between two brothers seen in the 2004 film *Taeguki, Brotherhood.*

Other genres of films also reflect the shadow of the Korean War loaming over them, with films such as *Secret Reunion*, also playing at the festival, a buddy cop film dealing with a friendship between a North Korean assassin and an ex-South Korean agent who had specialised in hunting down North Korean spies.

71-Into the Fire shines a spotlight on the young soldiers of the war with their shocking journey from adolescence to adulthood as 71 high school students are recruited and thrust into the war effort. A Little Pond reveals the disturbing - nearly unheard of - massacre of three hundred refugees at the No Gun Ri Bridge by South Korean and American troops believing that enemy spies were among them. The film had a very limited release in its native country with not many of its own people knowing about the event. The film is based on the Pulitzer Prize winning series of articles from the Associated Press detailing the tragedy. In Cambridge, one of the key journalists involved, Sang-Hun Choe, will be giving a talk on the topic and the screening of A Little Pond will be followed by a discussion hosted by Dr. Mark Morris of Cambridge University.

Spotlight: War



Blades of Blood

SUN 14/16:00 ICA London

FRI 19 / 18:45 **OFT Belfast**

Featuring an all star cast and the director of the biggest Korean box office film The King & Clown, Lee Joon-ik, Blades of Blood is a stylish adaptation of the 1994 graphic novel, *Like the Moon Escaping from the Clouds*. Set in 1591, the Japanese are moments away from landing on the Korean shores with hopes of conquering its people. Meanwhile, the King's court is embroiled with internal struggles between the East and West Councils. A young and rebellious politician, Lee Mong-hak (Cha Seung-won) creates a new faction which unites the East and West to run Mong-hak out of the court for treason.

Exiled, Mong-hak raises an army to overthrow the government, bringing order to the land and fending off the impending Japanese invasion. But even with the most noble of intentions, Mong-hak loses sight of his goal and leaves a wake of blood and betrayal on his journey to the King. One of those betrayed friends, Hwang (Hwang Jung-min), a blind swordsman, decides that Mong-hak needs to be stopped and quickly hunts down his old friend.

possibly surpassing any previous roles of 'the blind swordsman' character seen in Shintaro Katsu and Beat Takeshi's Zatoichi films. Seung-won plays the overly righteous Mong-hak with such conviction that you could be forgiven for empathising with his approach, albeit a bloody one.

The two lead performers deliver outstanding performances, with Hwang



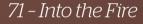
A Little Pond

SAT 13/16:00 ICA London

SUN 21/15:00

In the summer of 1950, Korea experienced one of its worst massacres where, at the No Gun Ri bridge, 300 refugees were gunned down by American soldiers under the orders that North Korean spies were among them. Hugely controversial and barely released in its native Korea, A Little Pond finally clears up some of the mysterious circumstances that surround the killings.

Featuring an all-star cast and real interviews with people involved in the incident, the film shows an unbiased view of what transpired. It also masterfully pulls in the audience, showing through no single protagonist, what it must have been like to be one of the villagers.



SUN 14 / 13:30 CA London

In the 1950s, a civil war broke out between North and South Korea which changed the country forever. 71: Into the Fire centres on the struggles of 71 student soldiers that fought through the Korean War. Using real people and events, the film exposes the personal and physical conflicts that these students faced when finding themselves on the last line of defence in a surprise attack.

A very stylist and energetic film from director John H Lee, who departs from the type of films that has brought him international recognition with *A Moment to* Remember and The Cut Runs Deep. The film has, not surprisingly, already seen success at a number of festivals around the world for its authentic depiction of a young generation at a time of war. It is bound to elevate John H Lee and the cast to even greater heights.

Starring Moon Sung-keun, Shin Myung-cheol, Kim Roi-ha, Choi Jong-ryul South Korea, 2010, 35mm, 86mins, Cert. 15

Dir John H Lee Starring Cha Seung-won, Kim Seung-woo, Kwon Sang-woo South Korea, 2010, Digibeta, 120mins, Cert. 15

Dir. Lee Joon-ik Starring Hwang Jung-min, Han Ji-hye, Cha Seung-won South Korea, 2009, 110min, Cert. 18



Spotlight: Action / Thriller

Secret Reunion

Dir Jang Hun ICA London, 12 Nov 6.15pm Odeon Cardiff, 13 Nov 6.30pm Arts Picturehouse, 23 Nov 6.30pm

Bestseller

Dir. Lee Jung-ho ICA London, 12 Nov 8.45pm Odeon Cardiff, 14 Nov 6.30pm QFT Belfast, 20 Nov, 9.15pm

Moss

Dir. Kang Woo-suk ICA London 13 Nov 8.30pm Thrillers and action films are Korean cinema's bread and butter and have been the source of much of the commercial acclaim that Korea has gathered in the last decade. It is undeniable that Korea produces some of the best thrillers and action films bar none, refining the popular revenge film into an art form with works such as Park Chan-wook's *Vengeance* trilogy – including *Oldboy* – and Na Hong-jin's *The Chaser*. These have reignited the country's cinema and attracted the admiration of famous filmmakers including Quentin Tarantino and Martin Scorsese.

This genre is generally seen as an exclusively plot driven form of cinema and Korea excels at this by adding characters who are far more than sheer reactors to the situations in which they find themselves. Kim Jee-woon, director of *I Saw The Devil*, the festival's Special Preview screening, states that "*I Saw The Devil* is a film that focuses on two men's emotions and actions in torturing each other in the name of vengeance rather than sticking to the frames of a fixed genre." This is something he (and similar directors) have attempted to do to create great films that overcome typical conventions.

The three chosen films illustrate a wide range of action/thriller films produced by Korea in the past year, involving some of the best talents the country has to offer: Song Kang-ho, Uhm Jang-hwa, Kang Dong-won and Park Hae-il.

Song Kang-ho and Kang Dong-won show tremendous chemistry in the Buddy Cop film, *Secret Reunion*. Park Hae-il stars in the adaptation of the renowned internet comic, *Moss*, a conspiratorial small town thriller. And finally, the actress from last year's blockbuster, *Haeundae*, is the victim of a supernatural being in the mysterious thriller, *Bestseller*.

Spotlight: Action / Thriller



Secret Reunion

FRI 12/18:15 ICA London SAT 13 / 18:30 Odeon Cardiff TUE 23 / 18.30 Arts Pic. Cambridge

A buddy action film might at first appear to be the wrong forum in which to explore the effects of the North and South Korean conflict. But director Jang Hun has done just that with explosive wit and heart in his second feature, *Secret Reunion*.

A young undercover North Korean agent, Song Ji-won (Kang Dong-won), assists a deadly assassin to kill Kim Jong-il's cousin, a defector. But when faced with the task of killing a young child, he refuses to carry out his orders just as a group of South Korean special agents led by Lee Han-kyu (Song Kang-ho) bursts in causing a deadly gun battle.

Six years later both Ji-won and Han-kyu have been unceremoniously fired and shamed with Ji-won banished to South Korea, separated from his wife and child. Han-kyu, now a private detective specialising in runaway mail order brides, stumbles across Ji-won and they form an uneasy alliance, each hoping to use the other to regain their honour.

Much like the Hong Kong film *Infernal Affairs*, mixed with the first *Lethal Weapon*, this buddy film brims with action and laughs with its too fantastically charming leads :Sang Kang-ho and Kang Dong-won.

Dir. Jang Hun Starring Song Kang-ho, Kang Dong-won South Korea, 2010, 35mm, 116mins, Cert.12A





FRI 12 / 20:45 ICA London SUN 14 / 18:30 Odeon Cardiff SAT 20 / 21.15 QFT Belfast

For the past decade, Hee-soo (Uhm Jung-hwa) has been a bestselling author but at her peak of fame she is accused of plagiarism and overnight her career and life are in ruins. She dives into a deep depression for two years but with help from her friend and publisher, she builds the courage to write again. Hee-soo drives to a remote cottage in a small town with her daughter, Yun-hee, and begins to experience strange happenings. Yun-hee talks to a mysterious and unidentified figure, telling her strange and unusual stories. Desperate for ideas, Hee-soo writes down these tales from the imaginary friend and turns them into her comeback bestseller.

Happy to have regained her previous life, Hee-soo is shocked when yet another accusation of plagiarism rears its head, from a book that was published ten years ago. To prove her innocence, Hee-soo must begin a mysterious journey to expose the sinister truth behind her misfortunes.

Dir. Lee Jung-ho Starring Uhm Jung-hwa South Korea, 2010, 35mm, 117mins, Cert. 15



Moss

SAT 13 / 20:30 ICA London

Based on the popular internet comic of the same name, Moss sees Ryu Haeguk attend his father's funeral in a remote village. Suspicious of the death of his father, he decides stay at the village but soon finds out that a vast, complicated conspiracy surrounds him resulting in the villagers' desire to kill Hae-guk. The internet comic has been heralded as a great thriller with layers and layers of depth, acute characterisation and astounding narrative structure.

Since its announcement, the film has been highly anticipated. Kang Woo-suk is best known for his *Public Enemy* Trilogy, which has attracted a talented roster including Park Hae-il from Boon Jong-ho's *The Host* and *Memories of Murder*. Moss preformed incredibly at the Korean box office, receiving more than 1.13 million admissions within the first three days alone.

Dir. Kang Woo-suk Starring Jung Jae-young, Park Hae-il South Korea, 35mm, 163mins, Cert. 15



Spotlight: Nise-en-scène

Mise-en-scène 1 ICA London, 10 Nov 7.30pm

Richard the Elite University Student from London

Be With Me

The Monster

The Key

Mise-en-scène 2 ICA London, 11 Nov 7.30pm

The Brass Quintet

Last Homecoming

Frozen Land

A selection of short films from some of Korea's up-and-coming filmmakers are presented, including festival award winning films. The films are chosen from the Mise-en-scène Short Film Festival – a festival established by some of Korea's biggest filmmakers – Boon Jong-ho (*Mother, The Host*) and Park Chan-wook (*Oldboy, Thirst*) to name a few – and has seen many of the directors involved becoming some of the top talents in today's Korean cinema landscape.

This festival looks for fresh and exciting short films and filmmakers. This theme is embodied in their catchphrase: "Beyond the Barrier of Genres." The festival challenges traditional ideas of filmmaking as well as creating experimental and unique films that attempt to push the boundaries of contemporary filmmaking. The best and brightest of these short films are annually taken around the world to a variety of festivals in Pusan, Paris and New York. The London Korean Film Festival and the ICA are proud to present for the first time this prestigious short film festival to the United Kingdom:

The first selection of films from the Mise-en-scène short film festival discusses the significance of relationships, whether it be the hatred of a rival employee, the importance of a lost key or a family having to make monstrous choices to survive.

Selection two centres on how different people deal with surprising, unusual or threatening situations that pull them out of their normal lives, from Brass Bands to human traffickers.

Spotlight: Mise-en-scène 1



Richard, The Elite University
Student From London



Be With Me



The Monster



The Key

WED 10 / 19:30 ICA, London

A film that highlights the employment reality in Korea where even the most favoured and well educated office workers have been known to take part-time jobs just to get by.

Dong-Suk, who is studying for a tax accounting position in a public office, where he meets Richard, a university student from London.

At 3 am on January 17, 2009, Hyuckkeun was waiting for his girlfriend Cha-kyung. At 3 am on June 17, 2009, Hyuck-keun is still waiting for her. While he is waiting for her, Cha-kyung daydreams of being an elephant. It's raining heavily one morning when breaking news is aired on television about an unidentified virus that is raging across the country. Despite the best efforts of a mother to save her family, each member becomes infected by the virus. The effects of the virus are that the infected transform into strange and unusual monsters, unable to speak. The mother, being the only uninfected member of the household, must make a terrible decision.

Everyone has had the experience of being driven crazy from losing their keys, but not like this.

Losing his keys has far more disastrous repercussions for this protagonist that no one could foresee.

Dir. Lee Yong-seung

South Korea, Digibeta, 28mins, Cert. 12A

So

Dir. Kang Jin-a South Korea, Digibeta, 30mins, Cert. 12A Dir. Ryu Seong-kyu South Korea, Digibeta, 23mins, Cert. 12A Dir. Kim Hyun-chul South Korea, Digibeta, 11mins, Cert. 12A

Spotlight: Mise-en-scène 2



The Brass Quintet



Last Homecoming



Frozen Land

WED 11/19:30 ICA, London

Corporal Shin is 100 days away from the end of his National Service. He forms a brass quintet with his military band mates to record a commemorative album. While the band is in session, they embark on a delightful outing....

Sun-young, like every other day, travels home late from work but on this occasion meets Sunju, a college freshman who has just arrived in Seoul to attend college. With a twist of fate, it seems Sunju is on the wrong bus after an evening's drinking.

Shortlisted for the Cannes festival this year, this short film follows Kyung-jae and Byung-jo, who make money from smuggling illegal immigrants from China into South Korea in a refrigerated van. On one particular trip, they discover that all of their shipment has died except for a young woman. Kyung-jae and Byung-jo now have to decide whether to get rid of her or keep her alive.

Dir. Yoo Dae-Eol South Korea, Digibeta, 31mins, Cert. 12A Dir Kim Joon-sung South Korea, Digibeta, 21mins, Cert. 12A Dir Kim Tae-yong South Korea, Digibeta, 36mins, Cert. 12A



Spotlight: Animation

Green Days + Q&A with
Director An Jae-hoon
Dir. An Jae-hoon & Han Hye-Jin
ICA, London, 13 Nov, 1.00pm

Short Films

ICA, London, 13 Nov, 5.00pm

The Man Who Couldn't Cry

Bread Kitz

Rainbow Time

Moon Keepe

Junk Shop

Ship in Bottle

Spring Comes

Papa's Lullaby

When thinking about East Asian animation, most people tend to overlook everything else in favour of Japanese anime. But there is a growing number of strong animation studios emerging from Korea that should not be neglected.

The Korean Creative Content Agency (KOCCA) is a body of the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism that aim to foster the growth of Korean creative industries, in particular those that specialize in animations, character licensing, music, mobile content, games and broadcasting content in partnership with KOCCA, the London Korean Film Festival hosted a successful (and fun) Animation Day last year. This year, once again with the same collaboration, we have prepared a selection of the best animation from Korea today, with one animated feature and a short film programme as part of the film festival.

Our feature length animated film includes a Q&A session with the two minds behind this warm-hearted animation titled Green Days. The directors, An Jae-hoon and Han Hye-jin portray the fantasy and flutter of adolescence through the encounters made between the three characters. In the post-modern era where modernisation and globalisation have created a society of rapid developments and progressions, An and Han use the simple objects of the past – such as a n old fashioned yellow umbrella and a railroad crossing – to evoke a sense of nostalgia in its audience members.



Spotlight: Animation



Green Days + Directors Q&A

SAT 13/13:00 ICA London

Described as a Korean cousin to Studio Ghibli in style, *Green Days* uniquely illustrates the universal theme of the highs and lows of adolescence. Arang, a young competitive relay runner who dreams of becoming a professional athlete, orchestrates a collapse in the middle of a relay race rather than coming in second place. At the same time, Soo-min transfers in from Seoul and meets Cheol-soo, who dreams of becoming a scientist, and the two quickly form a special bond. They are all young and believe that they will become what they dream, but with life's insecurities confronting them at every corner, will they be able overcome such hurdles and make their dreams into reality?

In this warm-hearted animation, the directors Han Hye Jin and An Jae Hoon vividly bring to life the dreams and fantasy of adolescence, shown through the encounters between impossibly aspiring kids. Set in the '80s and '90s, the dreamy world and youthful imagination remind its audience of our lost dreams and hopes. The film has a beautiful and unique way of evoking the childhood "dreams" that have become buried with age.

Dir. An Jae-hoon & Han Hye-Jin South Korea 2010, Digibeta, 100min, Cert. PG

Animation Shorts:



The Man Who Couldn't Cru

There is a man somewhere in the world that has never cried. Little does he know he is destined to shed his first tear the day he dies.



Bread Kitz

A warm and comedic story about the dramatic effects of even the smallest actions, revealed through the movements of an energetic cat.



Papa's Lullaby

Every night is the same: a father's snoring keeps his child up all night. However, it is this same snoring that will one day become the child's saving factor from a horrific nightmare.



Junk Shop

A manifestation of the idea that a family can be constructed and is not necessarily constricted to blood relations.



Rainbow Time

A fantasy about a superhero, a girl and an island with a vivid volcano.



Moon Keeper

High up in the sky circling the earth is a rabbit who likes to think of himself as the Moon Keeper. One day, he comes across a new neighbour called the Agent. Something doesn't sit well between the two and they butt heads.



Ship in Bottle

The story of a shy person
ashamed of his face, who retreats
to what he believes is the most
beautiful and safest place in the
world: a ship in a bottle.



Spring Comes

A depiction of the emotions felt by a girl who photographs a high school graduation. She reminds us of the value of memories.

SAT 13 / 17:00 ICA London

Cert. PG



Retrospective: Hong Sangsoo



The KCCUK in partnership with the ICO have launched one of the biggest national retrospectives of one director ever: the Hong Sangsoo season. The season will appear in 25 cities across the UK until the end of the year.

"Arguably Korea's finest filmmaker of the last decade" -Time Out.

"Memory, desire and raw self-interest clash against one another with startling poignancy" - The New York Times.

Since the explosion of Korean and Asian cinema over the last 15 years, one name has emerged as a truly unique voice, Hong Sangsoo. His first film, The Day a Pig Fell Into the Well (1996), saw the director winning awards and garnering acclaim worldwide, and he has not slowed down since. With ten feature films already under his belt and a slew of awards including the Un Certain Regard at this year's Cannes film festival for Hahaha (2010), Hong Sangsoo is well on his way to being one of the most important filmmakers of this generation.

Taking place on the eve of his debut at the upcoming Venice Film Festival, where he closed the world famous festival with his newest offering Oki's Movie (2010), the Independent Cinema Office, in partnership with The Korean Cultural Centre, are boldly mounting the first UK retrospective of Hong Sangsoo. His complete back catalogue screened for a month at London's BFI Southbank from the 1st September to the 28th before continuing with a national tour of 25 major British cities, including Manchester, Belfast, Cardiff, Glasgow and many others. Regardless of whether you are a casual or avid film fan, this is an event that you cannot and should not miss.

Across the UK from the 3 September until the 5 December. Please check local listings for details



Festival schedule

6.30pm	Odeon West End	The LKFF Opening Gala The Man From Nowhere (A-jeo-ssi) + a Q&A with Director Lee Jeong- beom Dir. Lee Jeong-beom
6 Nov		
_	Odeon West End	l Saw the Devil + Director Kim Jee-woon Q&A Dir. Kim Jee-woon
8 Nov		
6.00pm	Apollo Piccadilly	The Jang Jin Retrospective: Guns & Talks (Killerdeului suda) + a Q&A with Director Jang Jin Dir. Jang Jin
8.45pm	Apollo Piccadilly	The Jang Jin Retrospective: Good Morning President (Gutmoning peurejideonteu) + Director's introduction Dir. Jang Jin
9 Nov		
6.00pm	Apollo Piccadilly	The Jang Jin Retrospective: Someone Special (A neun Yeo ja) + a Q&A with Director Jang Jin Dir. Jang Jin
8.45pm	Apollo Piccadilly	The Jang Jin Retrospective: Murder Take One (Baksu-chiltae deonara) + Director's introduction Dir Jang Jin
10 Nov		
6.15pm	ICA, London	Harmony (Ha-mo-ni) Dir. Kang Dae-gyu
7.30pm	ICA, London	Mise-en-scène Short films A selection of short films from some of Koreas up and coming filmmakers.
8.45pm	ICA, London	The Servant (Bang-ja-jeon) Dir. Kim Dae-woo
11 Nov		
7.00pm	ICA, London	What is the Future of Korean Cinema with Tony Rayns & Others
7.30pm	ICA, London	Mise-en-scène Short films A selection of short films from some of Koreas up and coming filmmakers.
8.45pm	ICA, London	Bedevilled (Gim-bok-nam Sa-rin-sa-geo-nui Jeon-mal) Dir. Jang Cheol-soo
12 Nov		
6.15pm	ICA, London	Secret Reunion (Ui-hyeong-je) Dir. Jang Hun
8.45pm	ICA, London	Bestseller (Be-seu-teu-sel-leo) Dir. Lee Jung-ho

1.00pm	ICA, London	Green Days plus a Q&A with Directors An Jae-hoon & Han Hye-Jin Dir. An Jae-Hoon & Han Hye-Jin
4.00pm	ICA, London	A Little Pond (Ja-geun-yeon-mot) Dir. Yi Sang-woo
5.00pm	ICA, London	Korean Short Animations Dir. Kang Min-Ji & others
6.00рт	ICA, London	Paju Dir. Park Chan-ok
6.30pm	Odeon Cardiff	Secret Reunion (Ui-hyeong-je) Dir. Jang Hun
8.30pm	ICA, London	Moss Dir. Kang Woo-suk
14 Nov		
1.30pm		71 - Into the Fire Dir. John H Lee
4.00pm	ICA, London	Blades of Blood (Gu-reu-meul Beo-seo-nan Dal-cheo-reom) Dir. Lee Joon-ik
6.30pm	ICA, London	The LKFF Closing Gala: The Housemaid (Ha-nyeo) + Q&A with Director Im Sang-soo Dir. Im Sang-soo
15 Nov		5 Nov
6.30pm	Arts Picturehouse	The Housemaid (Ha-nyeo) + Q&A with Director Im Sang-soo Dir. Im Sang-soo
17 Nov		
6.30pm		Paju Dir. Park Chan-ok

13 Nov

A Little Pond (Ja-geun-yeon-mot) + discussion with Dr. Mark Morris Dir. Yl Sang-woo

Arts Pictureho

Зрт

21 Nov

Secret Reunion (Ui-hyeong-je) Dir. Jang Hun

Arts Picturehouse

23 Nov 6.30pm

Paju Dir. Park Chan-ok

QFT Belfast

6.45pm

Blades of Blood (Gu-reu-meul Beo-seo-nan Dal-cheo-reom) Dir. Lee Joon-ik

QFT Belfast

6.45pm

19 Nov

Paju Dir. Park Chan-ok

Bestseller (Be-seu-teu-sel-leo) Dir. Lee Jung-ho

QFT Belfast

20 Nov 9.15pm

Thanks to....

Advisor

Committee Advisors

Tony Rayns

Dr. Mark Morris (Professor | Cambridge University)

Daniel Martin

(Lecturer | Queen's University Belfast)

Simon Ward

(Head of Programming | ICO)

David Cox

(Programmer | ICA)

The London Korean Film Festival 2010 Staff

Chief Executive Yonggi Won

Festival Director Hye-jung Jeon

Festival Manager Misun Seo

Media & Marketing Manager Paul Koren

Graphic Designers Alex Charlton
Mijung Kwak

Festival Administration

Byung-hyun Roh
Paul Wadev

External Coorperation Manager Mijung Yoon

Marketing Assistants Kilwon An
Daewon Choi

Press assistants Ji-yoon An

You-hwa Seo Geonhee Kim

KOCCA Managing Director Hyun-jeon Oh

Animation Coordinator Hyunmi Kang





















KOREAN FILM NIGHTS

At the Korean Cultural Centre UK



November / December »

Korean Stardome: Choi Min-sik

The Quiet Family (1998)



The 59th Korean Film Night Director » Kim Ji-woon Cast » Choi Min-sik, Song Gang-ho Genre » Drama Certificate » 15 (South Korea) Running Time » 103 mins Date » 7:00pm. 25th Nov 2010

Synopsis » After the father's dismissal from his company, a family decides to open a mountain lodge in the suburbs of Seoul. Although they initially expect a rush of lodgers, the mansion is empty for days. As a result, the family becomes nervous. At last, the first guest appears two weeks after their opening...

Source: KMDB

Happy End (1999)



The 60th Korean Film Night Director » Jung Ji-woo Cast » Choi Min-sik, Jeon Do-yeon Genre » Drama Certificate » 18 (UK) Running Time » 99 mins Date » 7:00pm, 9th Dec 2010

Synopsis » Min-ki is a banker who gets laid off after six years of service. Although he's under a constant sense of uneasiness, he lives his new leisurely life without the stress of work, thanks to the successful career of his wife Bo-ra. who is having an adulterous affair with her college sweetheart II-beom...

Soure: KMDB

Crying Fist (2005)



The 61st Korean Film Night Director » Ryoo Seung-wan Cast » Choi Min-sik Genre » Drama Certificate » 12 (UK) Running Time » 134 mins Date » 7:00pm. 23rd Dec 2010

Synopsis » Kang Tae-sik is an ex boxing star, once a silver medalist at the Asian Games, who now gets paid for taking hits on the street. Having lost everything in a fire at his factory, and with his gambling debts mounting, he has no other choice but to take money for getting beaten up. With no hope remaining and nowhere to turn, the old boxer Tae-sik signs up for a "rookie's match" with one last hope...

Source: KMDB

Since 2008 the Korean Cultural Centre UK has been holding fortnightly Film Nights in our Multi-Purpose Hall. From contemporary independent films to international blockbusters, Korean Cinema classics and Directors' Retrospectives, we always aim to show a wide variety of films and genres to showcase the diversity and excitement of Korean Cinema. We also put on additional events such as Korean Food tasting and Directors' Q&A sessions, where in the past we have been joined by industry luminaries such as Park Chan-wook and Im Sang-soo.

For more information and to join the mailing list please visit www.koreanfilm.co.uk or call +44 (0)20 7004 2600



ASIANA AIRLINES Named 2010 Airline of the Year by Skytrax

Based upon a survey of over 15,000,000 airline passengers(in the year 2010, approximately 18,000,000 passengers), Skytrax, the world's most respected air travel research institute, awarded ASIANA AIRLINES its coveted 2010 Airline of the Year award, the most prestigious title any airline can achieve.

