

ASIAN CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARDS



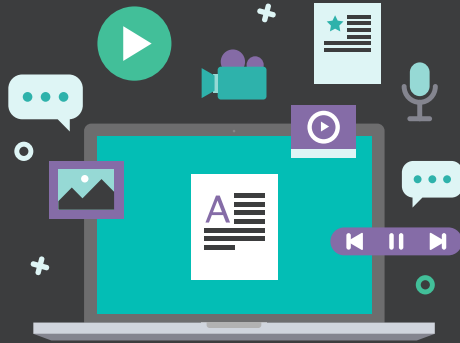
21-23 FEBRUARY
2020

MANILA

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Welcome to the Asian Cinematography Awards.

From the moment we opened the call for submissions in March last year, we knew that the festival had the potential to showcase a diverse selection of films. Even though we are focused on celebrating Asian filmmakers, submissions were also invited from filmmakers in other parts of the world who want their films screened to Asian audiences. We were delighted to receive almost 300 film submissions from 48 different countries. Of these, 22 films have been chosen as part of the official selection. An additional 10 films which highlight specific Filipino stories complete the festival program.

Although we have a number of films from experienced filmmakers, most of the films you are about to see during the festival are from emerging talent. This is very much in line with the aim of the Cinematography Awards Foundation: to give a platform to new and emerging filmmakers across the globe, allowing their films and stories to reach as many live audiences as possible.

Above all, as our name suggests, we want to celebrate the art of cinematography. Our main awards will be given to cinematographers and filmmakers who have shown outstanding creative and technical skills in bringing to life the aesthetic vision of their films. This year, we are honored to have the award-winning Filipino cinematographer Carlo Mendoza and the Amsterdam based Portuguese videographer Joao Costa as members of the jury.

Carlo Mendoza will be our guest speaker for the Special Talk event during the festival. We'll discuss his career and his collaboration with local and international film directors. We'll also talk about the challenges for Asian cinematographers hoping to work on international projects, particularly in Hollywood.

Joao Costa will travel with us to Naga City, Philippines to help with our Foundation's community and educational program, the Young Shutterbugs Project. He will be part of a workshop to teach school children the basics of photography. We believe in teaching young people a skill which they will find useful and inspirational.

During the festival, we are also excited to be launching CineLab Talents, a workshop in partnership with Celtx, the cloud-based media pre-production software company. Twenty participants will have a chance to attend lectures from our two jury members and from the Cinematography Awards President, Peter Wiczorek about visual storytelling, camera and lighting. Participants will also have the opportunity to pitch a story concept.

We'd like to thank all our creative staff for their efforts to make this event possible. We are also grateful to all the filmmakers who have submitted their work.

We hope you enjoy all these wonderful films.

Winston Catarroja
Festival Director





Join Us
The YOUNG
SHUTTERBUGS

join.cawards.org

This campaign from **Cinematography Awards Foundation** aims to give youth a chance to make the first step in learning the basics of taking pictures.

People rise by lifting others.

Give someone the chance to make the first step.



Photo by Cheska Lee

Free Photography Workshops - 17 February 2020
Bliss Elementary School, Pili, Camarines Sur, Philippines



A FAMILIAR STRANGER

Shorts / USA / World Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Yining Xu

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Jonas Schubach

Restless and bored while on holiday with her dad, a shy Chinese girl has a tender and meaningful encounter with a French woman.

A PAPER HOUSE

Shorts / China / Asian Cinema
In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Wei Geng

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Fan Chao



A fifth-grade girl named Jiang Ling is determined to find out the secrets of the paper houses she has discovered in Lin Jiang's home, a boy newly transferred to her class, and their connection to the terrible incidents in her village.

A YEAR

Shorts / Nepal / Asian Cinema
In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Jisun Jamie Lee

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Lasse Ulvedal Tolboll



A Himalayan village woman yearns to provide a better life for her young daughters but the only possible option she sees is surrogacy – a choice that will explode her domestic tranquility and become a searing dilemma.



ABOUT MY MOTHER

Shorts / Japan / Asian Cinema
In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Yumi Otsuka

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Yoshinobu Hayano

An offbeat story of a woman named Yumiko, a serious, yet apprehensive and honest single mother of a son and daughter, recognizes that her attempts at being the perfect mother have gone largely unappreciated.



ANACRONTE

Short Animation / Argentina
World Cinema

DIRECTORS:

Raúl Koler
Emiliano Sette

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Nelson Luty

Anacronte and the Sorcerers of Evil, without any emotion and fulfilling their destiny, they put to test humanity's happiness in a struggle that, in short, has each of us as winners and losers.

ARE YOU VOLLEYBALL?!

Shorts / Iran / Asian Cinema
In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Mohammad Bakhshi

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Mehdi Amiri



A group of asylum seekers arrive in a country border controlled by international soldiers. They conflict with the border soldiers everyday till a deaf-mute boy becomes a catalyst for a better communication between the two groups.

ATLAS

Shorts / Poland / Polish Cinema
In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Maciej Kawalski

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Paweł Dyllus



The story takes us to a remote, and a bit crazy, psychiatric hospital, which receives a curious patient – the man doesn't move nor speak, but spends his days standing with his hands up. The only thing known is his nickname – Atlas.



BIRTH OF A PRIDE

Documentary / South Africa
World Cinema / In Competition

DIRECTORS:

Dereck Joubert
Beverly Joubert

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Dereck Joubert

In Selinda, Botswana, lions had been hunted to near extinction but, thanks to conservation, the number of lions has grown from two to over sixty. Witness an incredible and heartwarming story of survival through the eyes of the lions that beat the odds.



CHOCOLATE MAN

Shorts / Germany
World Cinema / In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Murat Eyüp Gönültas

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Julian C. Steiner

An ice-cold war photographer, who accompanies a small group of mercenaries in a valley, meets a little deaf girl, who will change his life forever.

CLINGING WITH HATE

Feature / Myanmar
Asian Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Aww Ratha

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Win Lwiw Htet



Based on a true story of the well-known Burmese Buddhist monk, the story is about the disadvantages of a hateful grudge and the addiction to love in human life.

CROSSFIRE

Shorts / Australia
World Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Mert Berdilek

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Alper Kasap



In the suburbs of Australia an enigmatic man searching for salvation, creates a wake that leaves collateral out of human souls.



EUIGON

Shorts / Republic of Korea
Asian Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Jeremiah Magoncia

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Bae Gyeonggun

Every day, Euigon follows a simple routine but when his stepbrother comes to visit, whom he has not seen for ten years, suddenly his routine begins to falter. Euigon finds his feelings have evolved beyond brotherly affection.



FLICKERING SOULS SET ALIGHT

Shorts / Greece
World Cinema / In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Iakovos Panagopoulos

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Petros Antoniadis

The lack of financial support of Aris, who suffers from ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis ALS) leads his wife Persephone to get confronted with human existential limits. "How many years does it really take to finally reach home?"

IEWDUH

Feature / India / Asian Cinema
In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Pradip Kurbah

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Pradip Daimary



Based on the market by the same name, one of the liveliest markets of North East India. The film is about everyday people, with everyday stories, not identified as heroes, but nevertheless people who make the lives of each other better.

KEEP IT LIGHT

Shorts / Switzerland
World Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Malika Pellicoli

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Thomas Szczepanski



Beibhinn, a young American, meets Côme during her trip in Europe. It's love at first sight !
For her, life in Switzerland suddenly makes sense. That's why she decides to follow her natural exuberance and to marry this young man she barely knows.



LIVING IDLE

Shorts / India
Asian Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Ramana

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Ayaskant Baral

A symbolic short film that reflects actions have consequences. This is the story of an artist - a creative sculptor of idols, that puts life and color into clusters of mud and clay. Ironically, he fails to add color to his own creation – his world, his family, his child.

ASIAN CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARDS

FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

21 FEBRUARY 2020 – UPFI FILM STUDIO UP ALUMNI CONSUNJI ROOM (CINELAB)

10:00am – 01:00pm - CineLab Talents Masterclass

02:30pm – 04:30pm - Opening Film Presented by Peter Wieczorek, President, Cinematography Awards Foundation
Film Screening 1: Iewduh (India)

04:30pm – 06:45pm - Film Screening 2: Watch Me Kill (Philippines)

07:00pm – 08:00pm - Special Talk with Cinematographer Carlo Mendoza

22 FEBRUARY 2020 – UPFI VIDEOTHEQUEV UP ALUMNI CONSUNJI ROOM (CINELAB)

11:30am – 01:00pm - Film Screening 3: A Familiar Stranger (USA), Slaughter (Iran), Living Idle (India), Yamome (Japan), Once Upon A Time In... Sai Wan (Hong Kong)

01:00pm – 02:50pm - Film Screening 4: Anacronte (Argentina), Chocolate Man (Germany), Keep It Light (Switzerland), Crossfire (Australia)

01:30pm – 03:00pm - CineLab Talents Masterclass

03:00pm – 05:00pm - Film Screening 5: Filipino Shorts 1

05:30pm – 08:00pm - Film Screening 6: Clinging With Hate (Myanmar)

**23 FEBRUARY 2020 – UP FILM CENTER VIDEOTHEQUE
UP ALUMNI CONSUNJI ROOM (CINELAB)**

11:00am – 12:50pm - Film Screening 7: Filipino Shorts 2

01:00pm – 02:00pm - Film Screening 8: Birth of a Pride (South Africa)

02:00pm – 03:15pm - CineLab Talents Pitching Session

02:00pm – 03:15pm - Film Screening 9: A Paper House (China), Are You Volleyball?! (Iran), Euigon (Republic of Korea)

03:30pm – 05:00pm - Film Screening 10: About My Mother (Japan), A Year (Nepal), Flickering Souls Set Alight (Greece) and Lost Steps (Sweden)

05:30pm – 06:10pm - Focus: Polish Cinema – Play and Atlas

06:10pm – 07:30pm - AOA Awarding Ceremony

We hope you enjoy the movies!



LOST STEPS

Short Animation / Sweden
World Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Per Nilsson

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Per Nilsson

A film about a life lived, about time, love gone by, and about a man wandering in a park. He sets out to meet someone, though he isn't sure of whom. Winner of the Best Film of the Year at the European Cinematography Awards 2019.

ONCE UPON A TIME IN... SAI WAN

Shorts / Hong Kong
Asian Cinema / In Competition

DIRECTOR:

Nate Ki

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Alfred Pong



In 1989, rumors circulating that money became just papers when a delivery guy returned to his restaurant after delivering food ordered from Room 4E of Sau Lai Building, which is to be demolished. Staff members of a nearby restaurant are horrified after hearing this ghost story, then their service phone rings...

PLAY

Shorts / Poland
Polish Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Piotr Sulkowski

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Remigiusz Wojaczek



A man consumed by guilt because he did not dare to defend his mother, plays the role of a murderer and forces his ten-year-old self to face his original trauma.



SLAUGHTER

Shorts / Iran
Asian Cinema / In Competition

DIRECTORS:

Saman Hosseinpour
Ako Zandkarimi

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Hamed Baqaeiyan

Ghasem is forced to sell their cow to spend for a hard winter in their village, but his son fled with the cow.



WATCH ME KILL

Feature / Philippines
Asian Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Tyrone Acierto

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Marcin Szocinski

A prolific killer-for-hire finds solace and redemption after rescuing a teenage girl who was held captive by the man she was paid to kill.

YAMOME

Short / Japan / Asian Cinema

DIRECTOR:

Kenjo McCurtain

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Yanqiu Fei



Through a heartfelt stream-of-conscious testimony, a middle-aged widow recounts her experience of dating a man 15 years her junior - a handsome Lothario who may not be what he seems.

ANCHOR

Shorts

DIRECTOR:

Frances Irish Villaflor



Isaac, a seafarer wants to give a beautiful life to his family but eventually his work affects his relationship with his children.



FISH HEAD

Shorts

DIRECTOR:

Marcos Durian

A Filipino-American coming of age story which chronicles a young boys' adversity with childhood, identity and being bullied at school.



GROOMED

Shorts

DIRECTOR:

Angelo Reyes

Frustrated with her mother's seemingly overbearing concern, teenage Maria runs to the arms of an older man who pays her attention and promises her love, if she will do just one thing.

HOMEGROWN

Short Documentary

DIRECTOR:

Carlos Quismundo



A group of young Pro-Wrestling fans follow their passion by putting up their own promotion and learning how to wrestle with the help of a single instructional DVD.

MY NAME WAS JANUARY

Short Documentary

DIRECTORS:

Elina Gress

Lenee Son



When January is brutally murdered in her own home, a community reacts and her friends and other trans-women of colour come to share and voice their issues, concerns, and challenges.



NEURO

Shorts

DIRECTOR:

Jaye Jacinto

Tess, a struggling testimonial writer, tries to get a hold of her depression through an implant, app-controlled technology called Neuro.



NEXT

Shorts

DIRECTOR:

Jaye Jacinto

An unborn soul waits in front of a mysterious door that will reveal his fate on earth.

ONE NIGHT

Shorts

DIRECTOR:

Gio Gonzalves



Dan and Mike, both in their mid-20s, decides to prank Mang Badong, an old and respected albularyo (a witch doctor) in their neighborhood in order to gain internet popularity and likes.

PORTRAIT OF A LADY

Short Animation

DIRECTOR:

Kenny Leoncito



The son of a famous Filipino painter explores the world of his father's paintings, searching for traces of his late mother's ghost.



TOMBSTONE PILLOW

Shorts / Japan / Asian Cinema
In Competition

DIRECTORS:

Daniel Lir
Bayou Bennett

A 9-year-old girl gives the Philippines' wealthiest widow a tour of a graveyard thousands of poor people call home, where she discovers what real riches are.

CAWARDS.ORG **CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARDS**

Cinematography, in a sense, is comparable to creativity. It's something that comes from inside you that you cannot extinguish, stop or tell it to go away. It is an expression of our emotions and actions, the process of creating images that are beautiful, provocative, new and fresh. To tell a story in the way that has never been told before. Cinematographers are visual storytellers who speak using lights and shadows. They are the eyes of the director. Someone who builds characters with different camera angles and compositions.

I decided to open the first CAWARDS film festival dedicated for cinematographers 4 years ago. Now, we have the pleasure of organizing the awards in 3 continents and I would like to invite you to attend the coming events in Europe, Canada and USA.

Peter Wiczorek
Foundation President

EUROPEAN
—◆—
CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARDS
★★★★★

28 MARCH 2020
PATHÉ TUSCHINSKI
AMSTERDAM

The 4th edition of European Cinematography AWARDS. ECA is a monthly film competition for filmmakers worldwide. We support new and student film-makers, who are just beginning their careers with a supportive and enthusiastic audience for their creative efforts and giving them access to film industry professionals who can offer guidance and other forms of career assistance.

NYCA

NEW YORK
CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARDS

29 JUNE 2020
DOLBY MANHATTAN
NEW YORK



4 JULY 2020
TORONTO, CANADA



23 OCTOBER 2020
DOLBY HOLLYWOOD
LOS ANGELES

Visit CAWARDS.ORG and check all Film Festivals.

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MANILA 2020