

CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICAN MEDIA PRESENTS

CAAMFEST2016

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A Kaleidoscope of LGBTQ Stories, Ideas and Filmmakers

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 11, 2016 — Queer mediamakers give us a wealth of unique perspectives on sexuality, gender and universal themes that bind us regardless of our differences. Ranging from spearheading movements in Vietnam with the first mainstream lesbian film, YEU (LOVE), to the artistic expression-driven Shorts Program, THE OUT(ER) LIMITS, LGBTQ films and filmmakers continue to grow and evolve at CAAMFest.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS FROM LOCAL FILMMAKERS

Two local LGBTQ filmmakers highlight Special Presentations at CAAMFest 2016. Director, writer, actor, producer, musician and CAAMFest alum H.P. Mendoza joins us as one of two 2016 Spotlight filmmakers. Celebrate Mendoza with a multisensory TAKEOVER experience created at the Asian Art Museum and the 10-year anniversary of COLMA:THE MUSICAL, taken to the next level with a profanity-laced sing-along.

A recipient of the 2015 CAAM Documentary Fund, Director and producer James Q. Chan gives attendees a sneak peek at his work-in-progress documentary, FRANK WONG'S CHINATOWN (working title). Produced by Corey Tong, FRANK WONG'S CHINATOWN highlights the fascinating story of 81-year-old Frank Wong, a self-taught artist who has created extraordinarily detailed miniature models of San Francisco's Chinatown, which now reside in the Chinese Historical Society Museum.

LGBTQ WORLD

Queer filmmakers and characters make notable appearances in the 2016 CinemAsia section, including YEU (LOVE), 3688 and THANATOS, DRUNK. Viet Max's YEU (LOVE) casts pop music sensations Chi Pu and Gil Le as childhood friends who become more than friends as they grow up in Vietnam's first mainstream lesbian film. Openly gay director Royston Tan's Singaporean box office hit, 3688, is a musical dramedy spotlighting a woman who joins a singing competition to honor and help her aging father. THANATOS, DRUNK, directed by Tso-Chi Chang, follows two brothers, one of which is gay, as they struggle for family, love and success in Taipei City.

QUEER SHORTS

Highlights in stories and expression are found in the Shorts Programs, RELATIONSHIP STATUS: IT'S COMPLICATED and THE OUT(ER) LIMITS. A standout film from RELATIONSHIP STATUS: IT'S COMPLICATED is the poignant LOVEBITES, directed by Andrew Chung. The west coast premiere of Chung's film intimately examines the strains on a lesbian relationship during the zombie apocalypse.

The LGBTQ-centric themes of the eight films in THE OUT(ER) LIMITS carry you on an intimate visual journey of dance, music, art and identity. Celeste Chan's ABSENCE: NO FATS, NO FEMMES, NO ASIANS explores race, queerness, gender roles and the quest for community. DO NOT THINK FOR A MOMENT, filmed around San Francisco and directed by Adria Su, Vanessa Li and Vivian Wang, challenges the stereotypes and associations we place on Asian American women and LGBTQ-identifying people. Vietnamese American director Viet Le's ECLIPSE (RUBY) expresses musical and visual poetry through a trans lens on the 40th anniversary of the Vietnam War. FOR THE LOVE OF UNICORNS is Genevieve Erin O'Brien's dream for an all-inclusive utopia, told through an adorable story of a young girl's love for unicorns.

The second half of THE OUT(ER) LIMITS includes the grounding documentary, Joella Cabalu's IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY, which explores acceptance and what generations in the modern queer family can share and learn from one another. Steven Nguyen and Choz Belen's music video, MANSIONS ON THE MOON FEAT. ZEE AVI: HEART OF THE MOMENT, wisps two women away to a neon universe of adventure and danger where they find one another. MOLTEN TEA, directed by Laura Kim, unapologetically dives into the rainbow of lo-fi internet visual and pop music trends. Ending the program is a celebration of the senses, WE ARE MANGOS, where creators and cosmic sisters Jeepneys and Low Leaf dance and play in different dimensions.

FESTIVAL TICKET INFORMATION

Pricing for all regular screenings: General admission tickets - \$14. Tickets for students, seniors (65+) and disabled adults - \$13 (Limit 1 per program with ID only). Tickets for Center for Asian American Media members - \$12 (Limit 2 per program per membership ID). Pricing excludes special events and galas. Tickets go on sale to CAAM members only on Thursday, February 11, 2016 (online only) and open to the general public beginning Monday, February 15, 2016 (online only). Tickets can be purchased in-person at our CAAMFest box office at Alamo Drafthouse starting Thursday, March 3, 2016.

About CAAMFest:

CAAMFest, formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), takes place March 10-20, 2016 in the Bay Area. CAAMFest is a celebration of film, music, food and digital media from the world's most innovative Asian and Asian American artists.

About CAAM:

CAAM (Center for Asian American Media) is a non-profit organization dedicated to presenting stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences to the broadest audience possible. CAAM does this by funding, producing, distributing and exhibiting works in film, television and digital media. For more information on CAAM, please visit www.caamedia.org.

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