

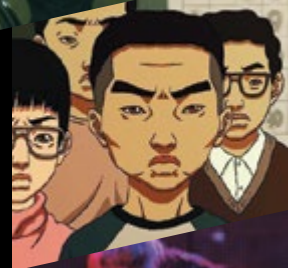
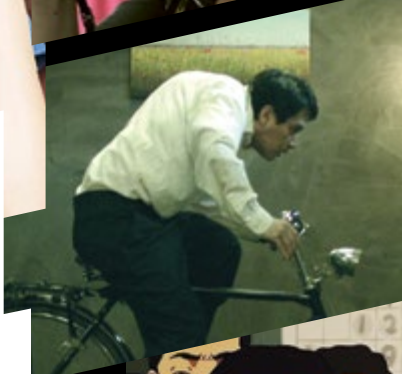
The  
London  
Korean Film  
Festival  
2012

# THE LONDON KOREAN FILM FESTIVAL

제7회 런던한국영화제

**1-16 NOVEMBER**

STARTING IN LONDON AND ON TOUR IN  
BOURNEMOUTH, GLASGOW AND BRISTOL



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**A MESSAGE FROM OUR ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

It is with great pride and honour that I welcome you to the 7<sup>th</sup> London Korean Film Festival.

Regardless of whether you are a connoisseur of Korean cinema or completely new to the country's film scene, we have created an exciting and varied programme that will delight, thrill, scare and, most importantly, entertain you.

We start off large with our return to the Odeon West End with one of the biggest Korean films in the last ten years; *The Thieves*. Our presentation of this exciting crime caper also sees its director, Choi Dong-hoon, and lead actor Kim Yoon-suk gracing London's Leicester Square.

From the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November through to the 10<sup>th</sup> in London (continuing until the 16<sup>th</sup> in Glasgow, Bristol and Bournemouth) we will show everything from the big box office hits to the smallest of independents, ending with the much-lauded *Masquerade*, as our closing Gala feature. This classic period 'Prince and the Pauper' film, which sees revered actor Lee Byung-hun in two guises – as both a King and a beggar of Chosun, Korean – will also welcome the star of the film on his return to London this November.

We have aimed high this year to create one of the most open and accessible events of Korean cinema in the world, to present to you, our fantastic UK audience, the captivating work of some of the best filmmakers, artists and musicians in the world.

Thank you for coming and celebrating our 7<sup>th</sup> year with us and I hope everyone enjoys the cinematic wonders Korea has to offer.

Hye-jung Jeon  
 Artistic Director

**WELCOME!**

# Come one, come all, to the 7<sup>th</sup> London Korean Film Festival!

Now bigger and bolder than ever before, our festival owes so much to the wonderful support that UK audiences have shown both to the event and to the KCCUK over the years.

This year's festival brings more essential Korean cinema to British shores with more than 38 feature and short film screenings in London, Glasgow, Bristol and Bournemouth.

Take your pick, sit back, and enjoy!

Join us online

[www.koreanfilm.co.uk](http://www.koreanfilm.co.uk)

[www.youtube.com/thekccuk](http://www.youtube.com/thekccuk)

 [@koreanfilmfest](https://twitter.com/@koreanfilmfest)

 [facebook.com/theLKFF](https://facebook.com/theLKFF)

We look forward  
to bringing  
you our most  
exciting line-up  
yet for 2012!



This year we will present an array of thrilling, funny, thought-provoking and insightful films, totalling 40 amazing events. With the extravagance of our big features such as the Opening Gala: *The Thieves*, *The Weight*, *A Barefoot Dream* and *As One, Korea* there are also the small, more personal features such as *White Night*. This powerful film explores the intolerances still existing in contemporary Korean society and the violence that intolerance often creates.

Since the success of last year's Animation section we have also selected a number of great animated features for 2012. Included in the section is *Padak*, a fish out of water story; *Katuri - A Story of a Mother Bird* and one definitely not for children, *King of Pigs*. This violent morality tale of youths battling against the oppressive rich kids has travelled to some of the biggest and best film festivals in the world including the prestigious Cannes festival.

Following the banner sports year London has had, and the great success Korea had at the Olympics we will be celebrating the inspirational sports dramas such as the true story of the first ever unified Korean Table Tennis Team in 1986 starring Ha Ji-won and Bae Doo-na in *As One, Korea*. We would also like to welcome back the Mise-en-Scène Short Film Festival selection which has a number of fascinating films from up and coming Korean talent.

As is with every year the festival will take the best of the London selection on tour around the UK. This year we are pleased to travel to Bristol, Bournemouth and Glasgow.

**VENUE LINKS**

[www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)  
[www.kccuk.org.uk](http://www.kccuk.org.uk)  
[www.ica.org.uk](http://www.ica.org.uk)  
[www.cubecinema.com](http://www.cubecinema.com)  
[www.grosvenorcinema.co.uk](http://www.grosvenorcinema.co.uk)

# THE FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

1<sup>st</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> November in London  
 10<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup> Nov in Glasgow, Bristol and Bournemouth

## OPENING GALA

*The Thieves*  
 + Q&A with Director Choi Dong-hoon  
 and Actor Kim Yoon-suk

1 Nov / 19:00

Odeon West End

## DISTRIBUTOR'S NIGHT

Distributor's Night  
 By Invitation Only

1 Nov / 21:30

Radisson Blu Edwardian

## SPECIAL SCREENING

*The Thieves* at Odeon Kingston  
 + Q&A with Director Choi Dong-hoon  
 and Actor Kim Yoon-suk

2 Nov / 19:00

Odeon Kingston

## K-PERIOD DRAMA

*The Grand Heist*  
*I am the King*

8 Nov / 18:30  
 9 Nov / 18:30

Odeon Panton St.  
 Odeon Panton St.

## K-COMEDY

*Dancing Queen*  
*Dangerously Excited*  
*All About My Wife*

4 Nov / 12:30  
 6 Nov / 20:45  
 7 Nov / 20:45

ICA  
 Odeon Panton St.  
 Odeon Panton St.

## K-POP

*I Am*  
*Mr. Idol*  
*Papa*  
*Acoustic*

7 Nov / 20:10  
 4 Nov / 17:35  
 5 Nov / 18:30  
 11 Nov / 16:15

ICA  
 ICA  
 Odeon Panton St.  
 ICA

## K-ART HOUSE

Mise-en-Scene Short Film Programme One  
 Mise-en-Scene short Film Programmer Two  
*The Weight*  
*White Night*  
*Sleepless Night*

4 Nov / 20:00  
 10 Nov / 15:30  
 2 Nov / 21:15  
 9 Nov / 18:00  
 11 Nov / 18:30

ICA  
 Odeon Panton St.  
 ICA  
 ICA  
 ICA

## K-SPORTS

*Pace Maker*  
*As One, Korea*  
*A Barefoot Dream*

2 Nov / 18:45  
 9 Nov / 20:45  
 11 Nov / 13:30

ICA  
 Odeon Panton St.  
 Odeon Panton St.

## K-ANIMATION

*The King of Pigs*  
*Padak*  
*Katuri – A Story of a Mother Bird*

3 Nov / 20:30  
 3 Nov / 18:30  
 3 Nov / 15:30

ICA  
 ICA  
 ICA

## K-MYSTERY

*Gabi*  
*Deranged*

7 Nov / 18:30  
 8 Nov / 20:45

Odeon Panton St.  
 Odeon Panton St.

## K-SPOTLIGHT

*EunGyo* + Q&A with Director Jung Ji-woo  
*Black Eagle*  
*The Ugly Duckling*  
*Spring Snow* + Q&A with Actress Yoon Suk-hwa

6 Nov / 19:00  
 5 Nov / 20:45  
 8 Nov / 17:45  
 11 Nov / 20:30

ICA  
 Odeon Panton St.  
 ICA  
 ICA

## DIRECTROSPECTIVE

Directrospective: Director Choi Dong-hoon  
*The Big Swindle*  
*Woochi* + Q&A with Director Choi Dong-hoon  
*The High Rollers*

2 Nov / 19:00  
 3 Nov / 16:30  
 4 Nov / 19:30

Odeon Panton St.  
 KCCUK  
 KCCUK

## SCREENING

*Running Turtle* + Q&A with Actor Kim Yoon-suk

4 Nov / 14:30

KCCUK

## CLOSING GALA

*Masquerade*  
 + Q&A with Director Choo Chang-min  
 and Actor Lee Byung-hun chaired by Tony Rayns

10 Nov / 19:00

Odeon West End

## CINEMA FORUM

Korean Cinema Forum with Guest Speakers

9 Nov / 19:00

KCCUK

## ON TOUR: GLASGOW

The Festival on Tour: 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November  
 The Festival on Tour: Glasgow  
*Padak*  
*Dancing Queen*  
*As One, Korea*  
*EunGyo*

10 Nov / 14:00  
 10 Nov / 20:30  
 11 Nov / 20:30  
 12 Nov / 20:30

Grosvenor Cinema Glasgow  
 Grosvenor Cinema Glasgow  
 Grosvenor Cinema Glasgow  
 Grosvenor Cinema Glasgow

## ON TOUR: BRISTOL

The Festival on Tour: Bristol  
*The King of Pigs*  
*I am the King*  
*White Night*

13 Nov / 20:00  
 14 Nov / 17:30  
 14 Nov / 20:00

Cube Cinema Bristol  
 Cube Cinema Bristol  
 Cube Cinema Bristol

## ON TOUR: BOURNEMOUTH

The Festival on Tour: Bournemouth  
*Sleepless Night*  
*Deranged*  
*Black Eagle*

15 Nov / 18:30  
 15 Nov / 20:45  
 16 Nov / 15:00

Odeon Bournemouth  
 Odeon Bournemouth  
 Odeon Bournemouth

# VENUES

**Odeon West End**  
 Leicester Square, London WC2  
[www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)

**Korean Cultural Centre UK(KCCUK)**  
 Grand Buildings, 1-3 Strand  
 London WC2N 5BW  
[www.kccuk.org.uk](http://www.kccuk.org.uk)  
 (Admission free, booking is required)

**ICA London**  
 The Mall, London SW1  
[www.ica.org.uk](http://www.ica.org.uk)

**Odeon Kingston**  
 The Rotunda, Clarence Street  
 Kingston Upon Thames KT1 1QP  
[www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)

# VENUES

**Odeon Panton Street**  
 11 Panton Street  
 London SW1Y 4DP  
[www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)

**Glasgow Grosvenor Cinema**  
 34 Ashton Lane  
 Glasgow G12 8SJ  
[www.grosvenorcinema.co.uk](http://www.grosvenorcinema.co.uk)

**Bristol Cube Cinema**  
 4 Princess Row, Bristol BS2 8NQ  
[www.cubecinema.com](http://www.cubecinema.com)

**Odeon Bournemouth**  
 35-43 Westover Road  
 Bournemouth BH1 2BZ  
[www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)

# OPENING GALA

## *The Thieves*

+ Q&A with Director Choi Dong-hoon  
and Actor Kim Yoon-suk

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Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 7pm  
Odeon West End, Leicester Square  
Special Screening: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 7pm  
Odeon Kingston

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Directed by Choi Dong-hoon  
Starring Kim Yoon-suk, Kim Hye-soo, Lee Jung-jae, Gianna Jun, Simon Yam,  
Kim Hae-sook, Oh Dal-soo, Kim Soo-hyun, Derek Tsang and Sinje Lee  
135 mins, South Korea, 2012, Cert 15

*"When Jesus was nailed to the cross, a thief was hung alongside. Thievery is one of the oldest professions known to man. When people started amassing wealth, thieves were there. Some thieves steal money, some steal hearts and some try to steal the world. This film is their story".*

Director Choi Dong-hoon

After a large heist, five of Korea's most infamous thieves – Popeye, Pepsi, Yenicall, Zampano and Chewingum – jump at the chance to get out of town when offered a job in Macao. Their goal is to steal the 'Tear of the Sun', a 318 carat diamond worth over \$20 million held at the Macao Casino. The brains behind the break-in is Macao Park who has assembled his own Chinese team to join the crew. However tensions run high when personal histories get in the way of the present and some of the criminals have their own designs on the diamond.

*The Thieves* is one of Korea's largest co-productions with a fantastic Korean and Hong Kong cast including Kim Yoon-suk (*Yellow Sea*), Kim Hye-soo (*The Red Shoes*), Lee Jung-jae (*The Housemaid*), Simon Yam (*Election 1 & 2*) and Derek Tsang (*The Eye 2*). Director Choi has a number of critically acclaimed films to his name including the 2009 smash *Woochi the Demon Slayer* and 2006's *Tazza: The High Rollers*. This mix of amazing talent and a gripping, high impact story has made *The Thieves* one of the biggest grossing films in Korea's box office history.

# CLOSING GALA

## *Masquerade*

+ Q&A with Director Choo Chang-min  
and Actor Lee Byung-hun

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Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 7pm  
Odeon West End, Leicester Square

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Directed by Choo Chang-min  
Starring Lee Byung-hun, Ryoo Seung-ryong, Han Hyo-joo  
131 mins South Korea, 2012, Cert 15

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Surviving accounts of Korea's most notorious ruler King Gwanghae's sixteen-year reign have revealed that there are fifteen days missing, where Gwanghae's whereabouts cannot be accounted for. Shortly thereafter the King's demeanour and attitude drastically changed for the better. What brought on this monumental change? That is what *Masquerade* looks to reveal.

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Driven by paranoia, the 15<sup>th</sup> ruler of Korea's Chosun Dynasty, King Gwanghae sends out his Chief Secretary Heo Gyun to find a perfect double to safeguard him from the never ending threat of assassination. Heo Gyun finds a performer in Ha-seon who bears a remarkable resemblance to the King. Gwanghae's paranoid delusions prove true as he is poisoned and falls into a coma. The Chief Secretary proposes that Ha-seon must fill the role of the King until their monarch recovers, so begins the process of grooming Ha-seon to fully impersonate the country's ruler.

While assuming the role of ruler at his first official appearance, Ha-seon begins to ponder the intricacies of the problems debated at court. He is fundamentally more humanitarian than Gwanghae, so uses his new found power to help the lowliest of his subjects which slowly improves morale in the palace for the better. Even the Chief Secretary is moved by Ha-seon's genuine concern for the people and realizes he is an infinitely better ruler than Gwanghae. However, the King's main opposition notices the sudden shift in the King's behaviour and starts to ask questions.

*Masquerade* applies the 'Prince and the Pauper' story to this fictional biography of one of Korea's most famous Kings and the mysterious missing fifteen days. The paranoid King and the kindly performer are both played by the now globally famous, Lee Byung-hun.



# K-PERIOD DRAMA

Like that of Britain, South Korea has had a long and successful love affair with costume dramas in film and on TV.

Unlike Britain, K-Period films vary dramatically; from drama to comedy to horror to thrillers. It has been a staple in the Korean cinema going appetites since the early days of the country's film industry and has evolved into hugely extravagant set pieces.

Over the last ten years the period films of Korea have become more intrigued by the immortality of the rich and the corrupt. This also includes becoming more and more sexually charged as was seen with the successful *Portrait of a Beauty* and *Untold Scandal*. Though steeped in tradition, Korean filmmakers are not afraid to mix up the winning formula for their period dramas by including other genres such as the supernatural as seen in *Woochi: The Demon Slayer*.

This year is no different with the K-Period film selection including our Closing Gala presentation of *Masquerade, I Am the King*, a comedic take on *The Prince and The Pauper* story and a *Robin Hood* heist drama in *The Grand Heist*.

This season offers an exciting introduction to this impressive genre of Korean cinema.

**K-PERIOD DRAMA**

## *I am The King*

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Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm  
Odeon Panton Street

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A feeble minded Prince, Choong-nyeong, is buckling under the pressure of his future kingship and dreams of a life outside of the palace walls.

With extra burdens placed on him by his father, the King, and his advisors, Choong-nyeong decides to escape the palace and his responsibilities. Meanwhile a slave, Deok-chil, is a drunk who opens his month before thinking and always throws the first punch. He dreams of what power being the prince would bring and just happens to look remarkably like Choong-nyeong. He does have a noble streak though as he runs to the palace in an attempt to save the daughter of a spy but is knocked unconscious. When the slave wakes he finds himself the Prince and the Prince wakes to find himself the slave.

Through this madcap and hilarious story the Prince and the slave are faced with the realities of their dreams and have to decide if this is the life they always wanted.

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Directed by Jang Kyu-sung  
Starring Joo Ji-hun, Baek Yoon-shik, Byun Hee-bong  
and Park Young-kyu  
South Korea, 2012, 120mins, Cert 12

**K-PERIOD DRAMA**

## *The Grand Heist*

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Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm  
Odeon Panton Street

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250 years ago during the Chosun Dynasty, Lee is the son of a powerful 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Premier but his social and career advancements are hampered since he was born out of wedlock.

Lee limits himself to his friend's bookstore where he can live happily and enjoy the amazing new western imports.

His world is soon turned upside down when his father is eliminated by a political enemy; the first Vice-Premier named Cho, and sent away in exile. Cho also frames a family friend of Lee's who oversees the country's storage of ice, the nation's most valuable commodity. With this action Cho becomes the most powerful person in the land and creates a stranglehold on the supply of ice to the lower classes. The poor are forced to find ice in treacherous rivers with many dying in the process.

Seeing the tyranny that Cho has created, Lee bands together a group of skilled people to steal all the ice from under Cho in an effort to bring him down.

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Directed by Kim Joo-ho  
Starring Cha Tae-hyun, Oh Ji-ho, Min Hyo-rin  
South Korea, 2012, 121mins, Cert 12





# K-COMEDY

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Though very different from the sort of comedies we see produced in the UK and America, Korean comedy films are hugely entertaining, filled with belly laughs and if you're not careful you'll even catch yourself having a good cry too.

The Korean comedy film business is booming in its native country though it has faced difficulty in finding a foothold in the world market unlike its cousin the Thriller film. Even the most successful and known filmmakers; Bong Joon-ho, Ryoo Seung-wan and Hong Sangsoo have found it difficult in attracting audiences in this country and the US.

The issue seems to stem from the cultural differences between the East and West but what some see as problems are actually some of the biggest assets. K-Comedies are surprising, fresh and hilarious with just the right amount of sentimentally to pluck at your heartstrings.

Our selection this year ranges from the bossy woman in *All About My Wife* to politics and love in *Dancing Queen* to situational comedy in *Dangerously Excited*.



**K-COMEDY**

## *All About My Wife*

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 8.45pm  
Odeon Panton Street

Doo-hyun has an amazing wife, Jung-in, she is beautiful and a wonderful cook but her constant nagging and complaining is getting on his nerves.

Doo-hyun has been married to his amazing wife, Jung-in, for seven years. She is beautiful and a wonderful cook but her constant nagging and complaining is getting on his last nerves. Being a coward at heart, Doo-hyun is too afraid to ask straight out for a divorce so he rejoices when he is sent on a business trip on the other side of the country. However it is not that easy to escape Jung-in as she secretly moves into his new house to be with him.

Knowing he has to take action, instead of doing the right thing, Doo-hyun hires his new playboy neighbour, Seong-ki, to seduce Jung-in, sweeping her off her feet and away from Doo-hyun. But Jung-in's love for her husband is not easily swayed which Seong-ki finds a challenge, attempting more and more elaborate means to have his way with her.

Where another of this festival screenings, *Sleepless Nights*, takes a more realistic look at contemporary Korean marriage this takes a more outrageous approach. *All About My Wife* finds most of its comedy through the relationship between its husband and wife, each playing their archetypal Korean comedy characters; the cowardly man and the bossy/domineering woman, to new highs not seen since films like *My Sassy Girl*.

Directed by Min Kyu-dong  
Starring Lim Soo-jung, Lee Sun-kyun and Ryoo Seung-ryong  
South Korea, 2012, 121mins, Cert 15



**K-COMEDY**

## *Dancing Queen*

SUN 4<sup>TH</sup> NOV 12.30PM - ICA

Dancing, politics and marriage clash in this feel good comedy starring Hwang Jung-min (*The Unjust*) and Uhm Jung-hwa (*Bestseller*).

Jung-min is a wannabe lawyer, failing the bar exam a number of times, but is the envy of all his friends due to his wife Jung-hwa, a beautiful and once promising dancer. Jung-min soon tastes success after saving someone's life in the subway and becoming a hero of the people.

With his profile raised, he is approached to run for the Mayoralty of Seoul. Though Jung-hwa is pleased that her husband's life being turned around, she finds her own existence a boring one compared to what it could have been as a dancer. She decides to take a risk and auditions for an X-Factor type show. This could easily ruin her husband's chances for public office if it ever gets out. Can both have their cake and eat it?

Directed by Lee Seok-hoon  
Starring Hwang Jung-min and Uhm Jung-hwa  
South Korea, 2012, 124mins, Cert 12



## *Dangerously Excited*

TUES 6<sup>TH</sup> NOV 8.45PM - ODEON PANTON ST

Han is a man that always seeks a stable, solid, safe and sound life. He works as a public servant and is happy to keep himself to himself with his life motto being "you lose when you get excited over things". He is respected in his work place, especially for his ability to deal with confrontational situations with complete composure. One day he receives a noise complaint against an indie rock band. He makes a visit and finds he is forced to evict the noise makers from their residential rehearsal space. The band decide to hound Han wherever he goes in an effort to force him to find the group a new practice space, which he finally does, his own basement. Soon the rock band occupies all corners of Han's life, upsetting his balanced, stable world.

This debut film from director Koo Ha-jong is a delightful and realistic comedy about a man looking to maintain the status quo in his life but finding something better along the way. The film creates a gentle yet passionate mix of music and comedy that is not over the top but will have you leaving the cinema with a huge smile on your face.

Directed by Koo Ja-hong  
Starring Yoon Jaemoon, Song Ha-yoon and Kim Hee-jung  
South Korea, 2012, 101mins, Cert PG



# K-ART HOUSE

K-Art House refers to low-budget, independent features which have high artistic and social importance. The inclusion of this section into this year's programming is a goal the festival has long looked to achieve as the LKFF are constantly looking to promote lesser known films and their filmmakers.

In previous years the festival represented new talent through screenings in conjunction with Korea's Mise-en-Scène Short Film Festival (MSFF). This year is no different as we welcome the best short films from the 11<sup>th</sup> MSFF which cover a range of genres and formats with a selection of nine great shorts screened over two evenings.

This year we are proud to screen a further three very different independent films in this category. With Jeon Kyu-hwan's participation in the KCCUK's *'Year of the 12 Directors'* in recent memory we bring the new feature from this filmmaker with *The Weight*, a fantastically bizarre and poignant Venice Film Festival winner. We will also present *Sleepless Night* which tackles the subject of modern Korean marriage and *White Night* a thriller with a socially conscious twist.

**K-ART HOUSE**

## *The Weight*

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 9.15pm  
ICA, London

Directed by Jeon Kyu-hwan  
Starring Cho Jae-hyun, Jang Won-jong and Park Zi-a  
South Korea, 2012, 102mins, Cert 18

The film is a wondrous blend of fantasy and sexual identity revolving around the director's preferred theme of social isolation. *The Weight* is by far the most daring and impressive work from a filmmaker who constantly surprises, thrills and entertains us all.

Jung, a mortician, is severely dependent on his pain relief medication prescribed for his near crippling tuberculosis and arthritis. His life has not been a pleasant one as he was born with a hunchback and left in an orphanage, only to be adopted by a woman who kept him in an attic and forced him to sew dresses for her. He has a younger stepbrother who dreams of becoming a woman, with the world around him despising him for it. Jung's only joy in the world is his work in the morgue. He finds beauty in the preparation of the dead for their funerals, fantasizing that the dead are his friends who he dances with and even paints.

*The Weight* recently received The Queer Lion award at the 2011 Venice Film Festival. Director Jeon Kyu-hwan's film beat stiff competition from such acclaimed filmmakers as Brain De Palma, Susanne Bier and Xan Cassavetes. With this film being the director's fifth film, it certainly shows that Jeon Kyu-hwan is a talent to be reckoned with especially when dealing with the sensitive subject matter shown here in a wonderfully fantastical way. A true pioneer in filmmaking, not just in Korea but the rest of the world too.

**K-ART HOUSE**

## Mise en Scène Short Films

Part 1: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 8pm, ICA

Part 2: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 3.30 pm, Odeon Panton St.

mise  
scène  
미장센



**BEYOND THE BARRIER OF GENRES  
2012.6.28~7.4 @ CGV YONGSAN**

Hosted by KFDN (Korea Film Directors' Network)

Presented by MSFF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sponsored by AMOREPACIFIC MISEENSCENE  
SEOUL METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT



# K-ART HOUSE

## Mise en Scène Selection – Part 1

SUN 4<sup>TH</sup> NOV 8PM - ICA



### *A Flower Does Not Wilt, But...*

Han-sung runs into his ex-girlfriend Soo-young after taking a year off from university. Unfortunately she has a new boyfriend who is the director of a graduation film which Han-sung is supporting.

#### Director's Note

*Some people will never forget their ex-lovers.*

Dir. Oh Tae-heon  
Starring: Choi Won-yong, Lee Yoo-young, Kim Tae-hoon  
South Korea, 2012, 25mins, Cert 15



### *Noodle Fish*

Noodle Fish is a pin-screen animation, made with plain noodles bought from regular markets. "To be a grown-up, you've got to get out of the water." Leaving this message, the tadpoles disappear. A friend of theirs, Noodle Fish begins his journey into the world out of the water.

#### Director's Note

*Who am I? Am I a fish? Am I noodles? Am I the man who makes noodles move?*

Dir. Kim Jin-man  
Starring: Kim Jin-man  
South Korea, 2012, 10mins, Cert 15



### *Feeling of Winning*

Young-hyeon and Jae-cheol are being bullied by classmates Chang-geun and his friends. Young-hyeon resents being indiscriminately beaten by Chang-geun and tries to get out of the situation.

#### Director's Note

*I believe that someday I will be able to overcome all the things that I used to try to adapt myself to.*

Dir. Han Seung-hun  
Starring: Sin Jun-suk, Kim Hyun-ki  
South Korea, 2011, 24mins, Cert 15



### *Keep Quiet*

At the library Sung-mo picks up the ringing phone of a person on the opposite side of his desk, in an unguarded moment while the person is out. A woman asks Sung-mo to run away with the phone.

#### Director's Note

*Nothing changes in this world even when corruption has been revealed. I want to talk about that kind of story.*

Dir. Hong Seok-jae  
Starring: Park Geun-rok, Um Tae-gu, Kim Yu-ji  
South Korea, 2011, 29mins, Cert 15



### *Forest*

My friend falls into danger as a result of an insignificant action of mine. I want to believe that it wasn't intentional.

#### Director's Note

*An unfortunate accident is caused by a man's sense of inferiority towards others, through this piece I wanted to depict the man's guilt.*

Dir. Um Tae-hwa  
Starring: Jeong Yeong-gi, Um Tae-gu, Ryu Hye-young  
South Korea, 2012, 32mins, Cert 15

# K-ART HOUSE

## Mise en Scène Selection – Part 2

TUES 10<sup>TH</sup> NOV 3.30PM - ODEON PANTON ST.



### *Anaesthesia*

Rookie nurse Ji-hyeon witnesses the sexual assault of an anaesthetised patient by the Director of her clinic. She manages to record the crime in secret, but the video evidence provokes a mixed response from her fellow nurses who are too afraid to take any action. After confronting one of the victims, Ji-hyeon decides to take the matter into her own hands.

#### Director's Note

*This film is based on an actual incident in Korea although the details and characters have been modified. The hospital where the crime occurred seems to reflect the evils of our society. It is a morass of hypocrisy, greed and prejudice. The film raises the question about an individual's ethics in an amoral environment.*

Dir. Kim Souk-young  
Starring: Baek Seon-ju, Park Myeong-sin, Park Se-jin, Lim Hyeong-guk, Jo yun-mi  
South Korea, 2011, 23mins, Cert 15



### *Poison Frog*

On their way back to base, Sergeant Jung and his squad members capture South Korean soldiers Han-gyu and Yeong-bok who try to hide. Yeong-bok claims that he is on official leave to visit his home, and Han-gyu is in South Korean military uniform but holds a machine gun of the North Korean People's Army (KPA). Without knowing their true identity the crew continues the journey with two POWs

#### Director's Note

*Like a poisonous frog which uses its poison only against those who cause harm to it, if no one had harmed others first in war, the poison would have never been released and we would never hurt each other. South and North Koreans would have certainly not been engaged in their fratricidal struggle.*

Dir. Koh Jung-wook  
Starring: Kim Hyun-sung, Cho Chae-yun, Jung Hi-te, Kim Cheol-mu, Tae In-ho, Kim Woo-seo, Hong Ki-jun  
South Korea, 2011, 31mins, Cert 15



### *Min-ho Win!*

On his way back to Seoul after outside duty, Min-ho takes a break at a small gas station. The owner of the gas station asks Min-ho to do some errands. Not knowing what is ahead of him, Min-ho leaves the gas station and encounters some villains.

#### Director's Note

*Good men always win in the movies.*

Dir. Jung Jae-woong  
Starring: Min Ho-yul, Lee Ka-yung, Lee Sa-rah  
South Korea, 2012, 40mins, Cert 15



### *My Fighting Life*

Do-kyoung is unshakable in his beliefs that he will one day defeat the people that bully him every day. To become stronger, he trains himself learning Jeet Kune Do but gets intimidated by the school gangs, becoming a faint-hearted loser. Will Do-kyoung be able to overcome his fear and win a fight?

#### Director's Note

*I wanted to get out of the situation where people focus more on the outcome rather than the process.*

Dir. Kim Do-kyoung  
Starring: Jang Chul-min, Park Jong-hwan, An Jung-yeon, Hwang Jae-pil, Kim Young-gak  
South Korea, 2011, 39mins, Cert 15

**K-ART HOUSE**

## *White Night*

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Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 6pm  
ICA, London

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*"Korea is still an ambivalent country where some refugees are forced to leave while some others have to persist through faint hope. Through a story of one winter night, I wanted to question these things."*

LeeSong Hee-Il

Directed by LeeSong Hee-Il  
Starring Won Tae-hee and Yi yi-kyung  
South Korea, 2012, 75min, Cert 18

Since the 2006 film *No Regret*, Director LeeSong Hee-Il has made a name for himself as a pioneer in Korea's gay cinema scene.

The director follows up with a thriller following Kang Won-gyu who travels back to Seoul from Germany. The last time he was home, he was viciously beaten for being gay. He has returned but soon hears that the gang who attacked him have been released from prison.

He meets his former lover who only wants to put the attack behind him and presses Kang Won-gyu to do the same.

**K-ART HOUSE**

## *Sleepless Night*

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Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm  
ICA, London

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*"Since I met the one, got married, and decided to have a baby with her, small changes started rippling out in our everyday life. I wanted to bring our present life and space to the screen. This is a story of a young couple's fear and determination of this point in their life. Their diary is reflected in a photo album-like film."*

Jang Kun-Jae

This short but sweet film is a realistic and honest portrayal of a contemporary Korean marriage.

The film centres on a young couple who have been married for two years. They have reached a point where they wish to start a family by having a baby. But with the pressures from family, friends and a lack of money makes the process a struggle.

Though they are finding married life hard their problems begin to bring them closer together.

Directed by Jang Kun-Jae  
Starring Kim Soo-hyun and Kim Joo-ryoung  
South Korea, 2012, 65mins, Cert 15



# K-SPORTS

Korea is a nation that loves its sports and so as you would expect the country's film industry is quiet prolific in its creation of sports films.

1966 saw the first Korean film based on sports with *Buy My Fist*, a boxing drama by director Kim Ki Duk starring Korea's first world boxing champion, Kim Ki Soo. Since then the country has produced a great number of boxing films such as *Crying Fist* and *Champion* with the focus now being centred on Baseball, Marathon Running and Table Tennis features.

The selection of this year's festival has plenty to keep you on the edge of your seats but they are also socially conscious and insightful.

Firstly we will screen *As One, Korea*, the true story of the first ever unified Korean sports team starring the fantastic Bae Doo-na (*The Host*) and Ha Ji-won (*Sector 7*). This is followed by *Pace Maker*, a film about a man who has to choose between his dream or his health and finally *A Bare-foot Dream*, a film which has been screened for the United Nations in New York.



**K-SPORTS**

## *As One, Korea*

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 8.45pm  
Odeon Panton Street

*As One, Korea* is a cinematic retelling of the first ever Unified Korean team that participated in the 41<sup>st</sup> World Table Tennis Championships in 1991.

In order to defuse the heightened situation after the bombing of Korean Air Flight 858 in 1987, a summit took place between North and South Korea. The priority of this summit was to form a unified Korean sports team to exchange goodwill between the two nations.

Thereafter, the first ever unified Korean team was formed under the name 'Korea' and participated in the 1991 World Table Tennis Championships in Chiba, Japan. South Korean Ping-pong star Hyun Jung-hwa and the North's Li Bun-hui find themselves constantly defeated by the Chinese "Ping-pong Witch" Deng Yaping. But Jung-hwa and Bun-hui find themselves forced into an uneasy alliance after being thrown together by their respective governments. But though the two teams have their issues, once joined together they may finally have a chance at glory.

The stories of these players during the 46 days that led up to the final match are told here for the first time.

Directed by Moon Hyun-sung  
Starring Ha Ji-won, Bae Doo-na, Han Ye-ri, Choi Yoon-young,  
Park Chol-min, Kim Eung-soo, Oh Jung-se and Lee Jong-suk  
South Korea, 2012, 127mins, Cert 12

**K-SPORTS**



## *Pace Maker*

FRI 2<sup>ND</sup> NOV 6.45PM - ICA

Once a promising marathon runner, Joo Man-Ho was forced to give up his dreams because of a critical leg injury and to support his younger brother. Still unable to leave the track and field for good, Man-Ho became a pacemaker - a runner who leads his team during the first section of a marathon event before dropping out. He makes ends meet by delivering fried chicken for his friend's restaurant.

Park Sung-Il his old coach from his marathon running days pays Man-Ho a visit. Park Sung-Il wants Man-Ho to become the pacemaker for the Korean national team as it prepares for the upcoming 2012 Olympics. Man-Ho is even offered the chance to run in the Olympics as the pacemaker for the Korean team. He happily accepts, but faces the recurrence of his leg injury, which could prevent him from ever running again. He must choose between his dream of running in the biggest race in the world and possibly never being able to run again.

Directed Kim Dal-joong  
Starring Kim Myong-Min, Ahn Sung-kee and Ko A-ra  
South Korea, 2011, 124mins, Cert 12



## *A Barefoot Dream*

FRI 11<sup>TH</sup> NOV 1.30PM - ODEON PANTON STREET

Kim Won-kwang used to be a promising soccer player but now he's a struggling businessman who's often mistaken for a con-man. After a number of failed pipe dreams and with nothing to lose, he ventures out to East Timor. One of the first countries to become an independent nation in the 21st century, the land is recovering from a destructive civil war. Since the country has so little Won-kwang thinks he is heading to a land of opportunity to set up a football shoe store. The one spanner in the works is that no one can afford what he is selling. Just as he has decided to close up shop he sees the local kids playing football and that he should lease the shoes to the children. But he starts to get to know the locals and forms bonds with the children. Its not long before he begins to coach the kids and learn that there is more to the world than being rich.

*"I don't think film should be made just for entertainment purposes. I think there should be a good balance between entertainment and substance. At least that's what I try to do anyway."*

—Director Kim Tae-gyun

Directed Kim Tae-kyun  
Starring Park Hee-soon, Ko Changsuk, Francisco and Ferinando  
South Korea, 2010, 121mins, Cert PG

# K-POP!

## I AM: SMTown Live World Tour in Madison Square Garden

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Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 8.10pm  
ICA, London

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Directed by Choi Jin-seong  
Starring KANGTA, BoA, U-Know, MAX, LeeTeuk, YeSung, ShinDong, SungMin, EunHyuk, Dong-Hae, SiWon, RyeoWook, KyuHyun, Taeyeon, Jessica, Sunny, Tiffany, Hyoyeon, Yuri, Sooyoung, YoonA, Seohyun, ONEW, JONGHYUN, KEY, MINHO, TAEMIN, Victoria, Amber, Luna, Sulli, Krystal  
South Korea, 2012, 116mins, Cert PG

The film shows the coming-of-age story and performances of each of SMTown's artists including; BoA, Girl's Generation, friends of the London Korean Film Festival SHINee, KANGTA, TVXQ, Super Junior and f(x). If you are a K-Pop fan then this is an event not to be missed.

Although to the rest of the world, the Korean music scene seems to have appeared over night it is an industry whose albums and download sales are in the millions. Many of the K-Pop stars may make it look easy but it certainly is not and this is what *I AM: SMTown* will show. Part documentary, part concert the film shows the hundreds of hours, blood, sweat and tears that each SMTown artist has sacrificed to be the very best. This dedication leads to the first ever East Asian music performance at the world's most famous venue, Madison Square Garden in New York City.

On October 23, 2011, SMTOWN performed at New York's Madison Square Garden as the first Asian artists ever to grace the prestigious performing venue in the very heart of the home of pop music.

From 43,800 hours in training to performing on the dream stage of Madison Square Garden, the real story of the young artists' continuous endeavor for their dreams comes to the big screen!

**K-POP!**

## Acoustic

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Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 4.15pm  
ICA, London

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The omnibus film is a staple in the East Asian film industry with *Acoustic* tackling a number of different genres but still keeping music at its heart.

*Episode 1: Broccoli* sees a female, singer-songwriter who suffers from a rare disease where she can only survive on ramen noodles. She is rejected by all the record labels and must decide what her last song will be.

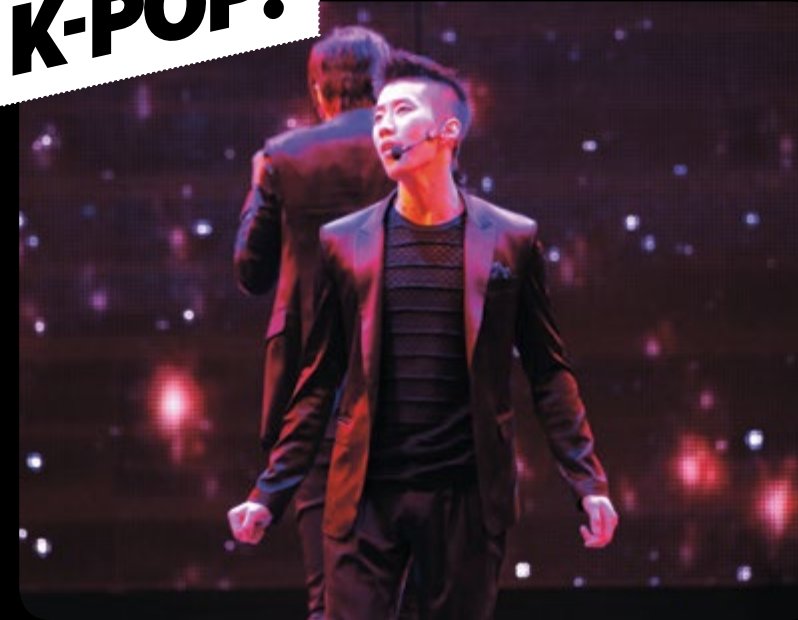
*Episode 2: Bakery Attack* is based on the short story by Haruki Murakami and sees two starving musicians looking to sell their guitars but instead they are re-inspired by a local baker.

*Episode 3: Unlock* is set in a future where music has ceased to exist. A couple set about to access an iPhone, now an old relic, yet still holds music inside which holds sentimental value.

The film marries an indie film about music with real life K-Pop stars with Broccoli featuring Shin Se-kyung, Bakery Attack with CN Blue's Lee Jong-hyun and Kang Min-hyuk, and finally a romance between 2AM's Im Seulong and Baek Jin-hee. This omnibus film is a fantastic piece to showcase the budding artistic talent of the popular K-Pop stars and a great opportunity for any fans of the talent to watch.

Directed by Yoo Sang-hun  
Starring Sin Se-kyeong, Seulong, Lee Jong-hyun, Kang Min-hyuk and Baek Jin-hee  
South Korea, 2010, 88mins, Cert 12

**K-POP!**



## Mr Idol

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SUN 4<sup>TH</sup> NOV 5.35PM - ICA

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Aspiring, all male, K-Pop bands called 'Mr Children' are finding it impossible to breakthrough as the next big thing. They meet the sharp-tongued producer, Gu-ju, who sees the potential in the group. She quickly starts putting the boy band through their paces to try and get them into shape. As they begin to gain a fan base and recognition a rival executive who looks to stop the groups rise releasing a damning video of the band's lead singer. On the cusp of getting everything that the band wants, will they be able to overcome their differences to become the success story that they strive to be?

Mr Idol is not just a film about a bunch of talented men who are skyrocketed to stardom. This is a film about four ordinary men, who become star-struck after seeing their heroes rehearsing, and sacrifice everything to pursue their dream.

Directed by Ra Hee-chan  
Starring Kim Su-ro, Park Ye-jin, Ji Hyun-woo, Lim Won-hee, Jay Park and Kang Da-sol  
South Korea, 2011, 114mins, Cert 12



## Papa

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WED 5<sup>TH</sup> NOV 6.30PM - ODEON PANTON STREET

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Chun-seob, a Korean talent agent is looking for a career in America and so he arranges a fake marriage in order to gain a Green Card. He joins a very unconventional family, acting as a stepfather to his new wife's six children, all from various green card marriages. One of the children hides an incredible talent as a singer and dancer who could be the key to fame and fortune for Chun-seob. However tragedy strikes when his wife is suddenly killed in a traffic accident. Chun-seob faces the possibility of deportation if he does not keep up the pretence of being the children's stepfather and so must take custody of them. But can a fake family ever be a real family? Starring Park Yong-woo (*Handphone*) the film captures the never-ending success for the KPop wave as it mixes comedy with music in the rising SMTown star, Go Ara. Having already found success in K-dramas; *No Limit* and *Snow Flower*, actress and singer, Go Ara (also starring in fellow LKFF12 film *Pacemaker*), seems an unstoppable talent as she breaks out the wind pipes as an up and coming singer being managed by Park Yong-woo. The film, which is principally acted in English, is a classic Korean melodrama that will have your wiping away the tears while singing along to the great soundtrack.

Directed by Han Ji-seung  
Starring Park Yong-woo and Ko A-ra  
South Korea, 2011, 116min, Cert 12

# K-ANIMATION



The Korea Creative Content Agency (KOCCA) is a semi-government agency under the umbrella of the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. We make dreams come alive by dedicating continuous support and encouragement to the Korean content industry such as animations, character licensing, music, mobile content, games and broadcasting to help them advance the new creative economy and the broader world.

This year we are highly delighted to be screening three amazing feature animations, *The King of Pigs*, *Katuri* and *Padak*. All these brilliant films have already achieved great success in Korea.



# K-ANIMATION

## *The King of Pigs*

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 8.30pm  
ICA, London

We live in an awful world, where the haves have everything, and the have-nots lose. We feel terrible, depressed and angry about that, always looking for the hero who will solve all of our problems. Perhaps we've just lost our self-confidence and hope to dump all of our problems on someone else. But if that hero existed, he would be like us. Would we be ready to accept it, wouldn't this make us even more frustrated?

Directed by Yeun Sang-ho  
Starring Yang Ik-june, Oh Jeong-se, Kim Hye-na, Kim Kkobbi and Park Hee-von,  
South Korea, 2012, 96mins, Cert 18

It's been fifteen years since Jong-suk and Kyung-min, two high school friends have seen each other. Both grew up poor and weak, constantly being picked on by others. The school they attended had the students separated into two factions, The Dogs, who were the richer, well to do, popular kids while the poor and scrawny kids were known as The Pigs.

Jong-suk and Kyung-min were Pigs. The two have dinner and talk about the old days, especially an old friend, Chul who used to stand up to The Dogs. Every time one of the Pigs was targeted Chul would retaliate a hundred fold. He had nothing but contempt for the Dogs and embraced his low social standing in society. Chul promised to always punish those that lorded over the weak with each act becoming crueller and crueller.

After fifteen years what has become of Chul?

# K-ANIMATION



## *Katuri-A Story of a Mother Bird*

SAT 3<sup>RD</sup> NOV 3.30PM - ICA

Originally published as a children's novel, this heart-breaking story is an allegorical sketch of the powerless people who lived through the most tragic periods in Korean history. A mother pheasant, Katuri and her 9 little children are enjoying the peaceful spring time in the beautiful countryside but the happiness doesn't last very long. A forest fire occurs and all of the animals and birds living there struggle to escape from the quickly-spreading-wildfire. Katuri and her family are also battling through the fire.

Born in Seoul, 1970, Gil Hoon Jung is an animation director of Korea who founded FunnyFlux Entertainment. He came up with the original concept of new preschooler show *Tickety Toc* and directed the series with Zodiak, a British company and one of the global leaders in media contents industry. Prior to starting up FunnyFlux the director was involved in a wide range of productions in film and animation. He was a Visual Supervisor of international TV series CGI animations *Higgly Town Heroes* (Disney Junior) and *Z-Squad* (Nelvana). He has 15 years of experience in this field.

Directed by Jeong Gil-hoon  
Starring Lee So-eun, Han Sin-jeong, Hong Beom-gi and Kim Hyeon-sim  
South Korea, 2011, 28mins, Cert PG



## *Padak*

SAT 3<sup>RD</sup> NOV 6.30PM - ICA

Once a free fish in the ocean, the 'Mackerel' was caught in a fishing net and brought to a fish tank in a seafood restaurant. She relentlessly searches for a way out of the tank but finds herself surrounded by the sceptical pessimist 'Old-flatfish'. As the longest survivor in the tank, he reigns over other fishes with his knowledge of survival. To him, Mackerel's protest to escape from the tank is a threat to his regime.

Immediately the casual viewer would draw comparisons between *Padak* and the hugely successful *Finding Nemo* from Pixar. They would be right to begin with but *Padak* is a far different fish with the director stating the film is 'A Fable for Grown-ups'. *Finding Nemo* is a child lost in the world and its parent desperately searching for him. *Padak* is a modern parable about modern society and the struggle we all go through to escape the bonds placed upon us. But also it is a fun and interesting story about a fish looking to escape its tank and live in the wider world, so along with the great animation there is something for both adults and children alike.

Directed by Lee Dae-hee  
Starring Shi Young-jun, Kim Hyeon-ji, Ahn Young-mi, Hyeon Gyeong-su and Lee Ho-san  
South Korea, 2012, DCP, 78mins, Cert 12



# K-MYSTERY

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Mysteries and thrillers are the Korean film industry's bread and butter. Taking elements of *Oldboy* and other successful mysteries our selection of films are different, fresh and... well, thrilling.

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Our two film screenings are completely different from one another with *Gabi*, a period film dealing with assassination and the love of coffee. The idea of overthrowing the monarchy in a period setting is one that has captured the Korean film audience with a large number of great films like this being released. Based on the book by Kim Tak-hwan named *Noseoa Gabi*, which translates as Russian Coffee, the film is inspired by the many conspiracy theories surrounding King Gojong and his notorious love of coffee.

Ever since the release of films such as *Night of The Living Dead*, the world has become infatuated with films about contagious diseases. Though not a zombie film, *Deranged*, tackles the fears, paranoia's and sense of survival that results from a pandemic. The film was an incredible success, critically and commercially, even stopping the amazing *Spider-man* from reaching the top spot in the South Korean box office.

**K-MYSTERY**

## *Gabi*

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Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm  
Odeon Panton Street

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In the twilight of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, King Gojong of Korea's Chosun Dynasty takes refuge in the Russian Consulate after threats of a foreign invasion.

While being a guest of the Russian government the King falls in love with a drink yet to find popularity in Korea, that drink being coffee. When the threat subsides, Gojong returns to his throne and hires Tanya to be his personal barista.

Due to her closeness to the King, Tanya finds herself being dragged into a dangerous social circle where she makes the acquaintance of a Russian sniper and a mysterious socialite Bae Jeong-ja. Tanya soon becomes a political pawn in a web of lies to overthrow the King.

Directed by Chang Yoon-hyun  
Starring Joo Ji-mo, Kim So-yeon, Park Hee-soon and Yu Sun  
South Korea, 2012, 115mins, Cert 15

**K-MYSTERY**

## *Deranged*

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Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 8.45pm  
Odeon Panton Street

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*Symptom Stage 1:*  
Increased appetite, several months prior to death

*Symptom Stage 2:*  
No increase in weight despite heavy consumption of food

*Symptom Stage 3:*  
Extreme thirst 2-3 days prior to death

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Directed by Park Joung-woo  
Starring Kim Myung-min, Mun Jung-hee, Kim Dong-wan and Lee Honey  
South Korea, 2012, 109mins, Cert 15

Just before sunrise a number of gruesomely skeletal bodies are found floating in the Han River. The people appeared to have died in some kind of mass drowning. Before anyone can get to grips with the situation more and more cases of people being found dead by drowning surface across the nation. The cause is soon determined to be a mutated parasite called hairworm that brainwashes its host into jumping in water and committing suicide. With a short incubation period, a 100% fatality rate and no sign of the cause or a cure, the country descends into nationwide hysteria.

Pharmaceutical company salesman Jae-hyeok discovers that his family has become infected with the parasite and is desperate to find the cure. In doing so he uncovers a frightening conspiracy behind the infection.



# K-SPOTLIGHT

Sometimes when structuring a film festival there are certain films which are difficult to categorise. This is the case with this year's festival, as great films appeared that we felt needed to be screened but did not fit readily into our line-up of genres. We decided to show them anyway..

Our 2012 highlights include the high octane, high flying action film, *Black Eagle (R2B: Return to Base)* featuring the mega star Rain; *EunGyo*, a love triangle film with Park Hae-il, one of the stars of *The Host* and finally *The Ugly Duckling*, the semi-true story of the director's time while serving his military duty.

All three are great films that needed to be screened so we hope you enjoy them.



# K-SPOTLIGHT

## EunGyo

+ Q&A with Director Jung Ji-woo

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 7pm  
ICA, London

A famous and beloved old poet, Jeok-yo, adopts an untalented but eager student Ji-woo, whose wish is to become a novelist.

The relationship that grows between the two is a complicated one, with an equal measure of love and hate. The bond between the two is tested further when the 17 year old EunGyo seeks out the poet, entrancing both student and teacher immediately.

A love triangle forms with a growing sense of resentment between Ji-woo and his mentor forcing them to decide between salvaging their father/son relationship or sacrifice the possible love of their lives for the other's happiness.



Directed by Jung Ji-woo  
Starring Park Hae-il, Kim Moo-yul and Kim Go-eun  
South Korea, 2012, 129mins, Cert 18

# K-SPOTLIGHT



## Black Eagle (AKA R2B: Return To Base)

MON 5<sup>TH</sup> NOV 8.45PM - ODEON PANTON STREET

Taking a leaf from the Tony Scott 1980's classic *Top Gun*, this high octane action film stars the K-Pop and film sensation Rain as a cocky fighter pilot who finds he has to stop a possible war.

Tae-hun finds himself transferred to a combat flying unit after a performing an unplanned and near fatal manoeuvre at an Air Show. On his first day he meets the unit's top pilot, Cheol-hui and the two opposing attitudes, Tae-hun's free spirit and Cheol-hui's by the rules approach causes tension. Tae-hun also meets Se-yeong and falls head over heels for the female engineer. However Tae-hun's impulsive and dangerous behaviour sees him being suspended just when a reconnaissance mission turns sour with the death of one of his friends and the disappearance of another. The teammates have to put aside their petty differences and band together to find their friend and stop a possible war.

Directed by Kim Dong-won  
Starring Jung Ji-hoon (Rain), Yu Jun-sang, Shin Se-kyung, Kim Sung-su and Lee Ha-na  
South Korea, 2012, 110mins, Cert 15



## The Ugly Duckling

THUR 8<sup>TH</sup> NOV 5.45PM - ICA

From the director of *Pain* and *Typhoon*, Kwak Kyung-taek presents the comedy drama *The Ugly Duckling*, based on the director's time serving in the military. The film follows Private Jeon, a 23 year old service man in 1987 Korea, a time of political unrest. Jeon struggles in the army and is forced to abuse inmates in a prison facility which opens his eyes to the problems in his country's society, empowering him to rise against the wrongs he has witnessed.

Kwak Kyung-taek has a knack for using the cityscape of Busan in his movies that are also known for characters who personify traditional Korean male values; camaraderie, perseverance, passion etc. He made his directorial debut with a small-budget flick, *3PM Paradise Bath House* in 1997 gaining national fame with the mega success of *Friend* 2001. The movie attracted 8 million viewers across Korea and set a new box office record with then the most number of tickets sold. Along with *Love from 2007*, *Pain* proved Kwak's gift in directing melodramas with extreme emotions coming and going. *The Ugly Duckling* mixes the director's expertise in Melodrama with a pinch of humour to create a thought provoking, funny and insightful film.

Dir. Kwak Kyung-taek  
Starring: Kim Jun-ku, Oh Dal-soo  
South Korea, 2011, 96mins, Cert 15



# FILMOGRAPHY

2000 A SHORT TRIP DIRECTOR

2004 THE BIG SWINDLE SCREENWRITER/DIRECTOR

2006 TAZZA: THE HIGH ROLLERS DIRECTOR

2006 THE RESTLESS SCREENWRITER

2009 WOOSHI: THE DEMON SLAYER SCREENWRITER/DIRECTOR

2012 THE THIEVES SCREENWRITER/DIRECTOR

# DIRECTROSPECTIVE: CHOI DONG-HOON

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Making his debut in 2000, Choi Dong-hoon has had one of the rare fortunes of being lauded both critically and commercially as a director.

His first feature, *The Big Swindle*, is one of Korea's first and most successful heist films, gaining 2.5 million admissions and kick starting the filmmaker's career. The director soon followed with his second feature *Tazza: The High Rollers*, a realistic portrayal of underground gambling which went onto being the third highest grossing film in 2006 with over 6 million admissions and the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest grossing film of the year, despite the R rating the film received.

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Later director Choi created the first, onscreen, Korean superhero with the internationally successful *Woochi: The Demon Slayer*. The film starred the then up and coming actor Gang Dong-won as the comical title character.

The director has now returned to his initial success, the heist film, with our Opening Gala feature *The Thieves*. He has perfected his mix of action, comedy and assembly, in this Hong Kong co-production, joining together some of the finest actors from the Korean and Chinese film industry. This has propelled the director to new box office and critical heights. Topping over 13 million admissions, beating the much loved Bong Joon-ho film *The Host*, the film has helped to generate new audiences in America, South East Asia and France.

**DIRECTROSPECTIVE**

# Woochi: The Demon Slayer

+ Q&A with Director Choi Dong-hoon

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 4.30pm  
Korean Cultural Centre UK

Over 500 years ago, during the Chosun Dynasty, a sacred pipe with ultimate power falls into the evil hands of the goblins, sending the world into chaos. The ancient Taoist wizards seek out the aid of the greatest ascetics of their period, the Master and Hwadam. To help vanquish the goblins the wizards entrust their saviours each with a half of the pipe.

The Master's apprentice, Woochi, a mischievous young wizard, makes a mockery of the King and is hunted down. This forces the Taoist wizards to visit the Master but they find him murdered and his half of the pipe missing. Believing Woochi to be the killer, the Taoists imprison Woochi in a painting with his trusty servant, Chorangyi.

Now in the present day, the much revered wizards are now scraping by in modern Seoul and have found themselves becoming targets of the shape shifting goblins. Left with only one option, the wizards release Woochi to uncover the identity of the person behind their attempted assassinations.

Starring Gang Dong-won, Lim Soo-jung, Kim Yun-seok, Yoo Hae-jin, Yun Jung-ah, Kim Si-kwon, Joo Jin-mo, Kim Hyo-jin and Kim Dong-hyo  
South Korea, 2009, 136mins, Cert 12

**DIRECTROSPECTIVE**



# Tazza: The High Rollers

SUN 4<sup>TH</sup> NOV 7.30PM - ODEON PANTON ST

Having lost his and his sister's life savings in gambling joints, Go-nee is determined to drink his life away. However he finds out that he has been swindled by professional gamblers dubbed 'slickers'.

To regain his family's money, Go-nee undergoes training to become the greatest 'slicker' of them all by a master named Mr Pyeong. Go-nee becomes infamous, visiting every gambling arena Korea holds with his master.

He soon gains the interest of Madam Jung; an old rival of Pyeong's who looks to steal Go-nee away from his mentor.

Starring Cho Seung-woo, Kim Hye-soo, Baek Yun-shick, Yoo Hae-jin, Kim Yun-seok, Kim Min-kyung, Kim Eung-soo and Joo Jin-mo  
South Korea, 2006, 139mins, Cert 18



# The Big Swindle

FRI 2<sup>ND</sup> NOV 7PM - KOREAN CULTURAL CENTRE UK

A month has passed since Choi Chang-hyuk has been released from prison after being convicted of fraud.

Though he should start to live an honest life he comes up with an elaborate plan to pull off the biggest bank heist in Korea's history. He assembles the top five crooks in the country; Master Kim, the mother of all swindlers; Big Mouth, the best mouth-piece around; Swallow, the lady-killer; Gasoline, a gifted counterfeiter and himself, the brains. But the problem surrounding yourself with the crème de la crème of the criminal underworld is that you cannot trust anyone.

Can Choi Chang-hyuk pull off the 5 billion won heist while keeping one step ahead of the police and his own team?

Starring Kim Yun-seok, Park Shin-yang, Joo Jin-mo, Yum Jung-ah, Lee Go-cheol, Baek Yun Shick, Lee Mun-shil, Chun Ho-jin, Park Won-sang, Kim Sang-ho and Song Hyeon-jeong  
South Korea, 2004, 116mins, Cert 18

**SPECIAL SCREENING**

# Running Turtle

+ Q&A with Actor Kim Yoon-suk

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Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2.30pm  
The Korean Cultural Centre UK

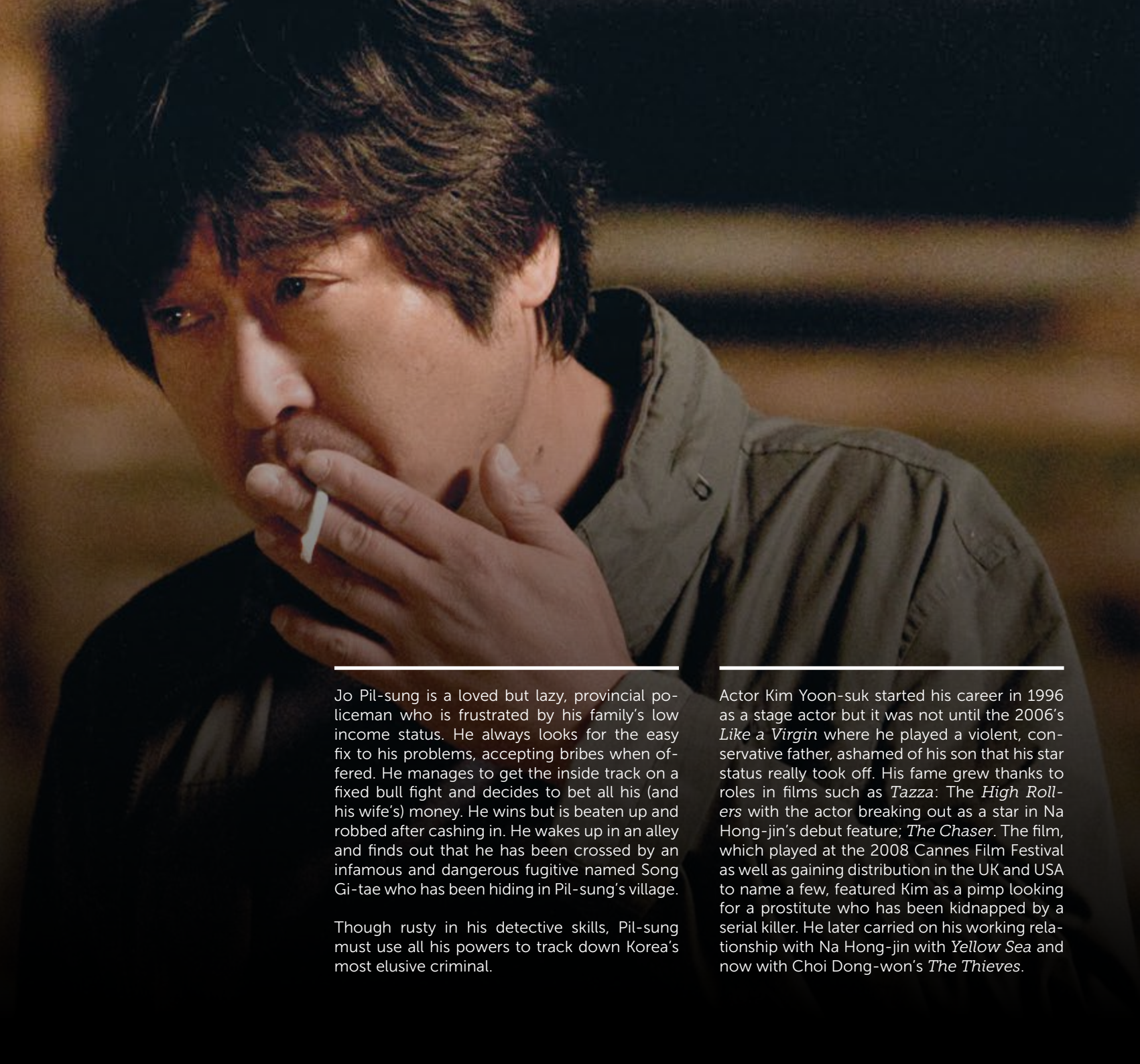
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Directed by Lee Yeon-woo  
Starring Kim Yoon-suk and Choung Kyung-ho  
South Korea, 2009, 117mins, Cert 15

Jo Pil-sung is a loved but lazy, provincial policeman who is frustrated by his family's low income status. He always looks for the easy fix to his problems, accepting bribes when offered. He manages to get the inside track on a fixed bull fight and decides to bet all his (and his wife's) money. He wins but is beaten up and robbed after cashing in. He wakes up in an alley and finds out that he has been crossed by an infamous and dangerous fugitive named Song Gi-tae who has been hiding in Pil-sung's village.

Though rusty in his detective skills, Pil-sung must use all his powers to track down Korea's most elusive criminal.

Actor Kim Yoon-suk started his career in 1996 as a stage actor but it was not until the 2006's *Like a Virgin* where he played a violent, conservative father, ashamed of his son that his star status really took off. His fame grew thanks to roles in films such as *Tazza: The High Rollers* with the actor breaking out as a star in Na Hong-jin's debut feature; *The Chaser*. The film, which played at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival as well as gaining distribution in the UK and USA to name a few, featured Kim as a pimp looking for a prostitute who has been kidnapped by a serial killer. He later carried on his working relationship with Na Hong-jin with *Yellow Sea* and now with Choi Dong-won's *The Thieves*.



# London Korean Film Archive

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Since the inception of the Korean Cultural Centre UK, the organisation has tirelessly toiled to promote every aspect of Korean culture.

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One of the more successful elements has been the promotion of Korean cinema with the free Korean Film Night screenings and the London Korean Film Festival. These ongoing programmes have been generously supported by Korean and UK distributors, various Korean film professionals as well as KOFIC (Korean Film Council) and KOFA (Korean Film Archive).

Working with the Korean Film Archive and with Tony Rayns, the KCCUK has undertaken a new chapter in its efforts to promote Korean cinema with the opening of the London Korean Film Archive.

The Archive, held within the KCCUK building just off Trafalgar Square, will house film materials donated by KOFA and Tony Rayns including the rarest of Korean cinema and promotional materials. The Archive will allow people to access never before seen materials in the UK as well as a free VOD service. Making rare films and materials available to the public is only one of the key objectives of the Archive as it looks to preserve, digitise and translate these for the future.

This is an exciting new step for fans of Korean cinema in the UK who will now be able to access films never made available outside of Korea. The London Korean Film Archive will have an official opening ceremony during the 7<sup>th</sup> London Korean Film Festival.



# Korean Cinema Forum

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Korean Cinema Forum 2012

7pm Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November at the Korean Cultural Centre UK

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The Korean Cinema Forum returns to the London Korean Film Festival 2012. This annual event provides audiences with the opportunity to discuss the history of Korean Cinema, its present and future with a selection of Asian Film specialists from the UK and Korea.

Joining the Korean Cinema Forum 2012 will be:

## Tony Rayns

British born and based film critic, film festival programmer and occasional filmmaker has been writing about film for over forty years. Tony, one of the foremost experts in East Asian cinema, has worked over many varied publications with strong ties to the UK's premier film magazine, Sight & Sound published by the BFI. He is heavily involved in programming a number of film festivals around the world including the London Film Festival and the Dragons & Tigers section of the Vancouver International Film Festival. As well as commentating and exhibiting Tony has also been involved in film-making with directing a documentary on Korean filmmaker Jang Sun-woo entitled The Jang Sun-woo Variations as well as co-writing San Tiao Ren with Cinematographer and director Christopher Doyle.

## Dr. Mark Morris

A Lecturer within the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Trinity College, University of Cambridge. Dr. Morris is one of the UK's leading specialists in Korean Cinema; he has been an adviser to the London Korean Film Festival for many years and has written widely on the development and growth of Korean cinema.

## Dongjin Oh

Dong-Jin Oh is a chairman of Jecheon International Music & Film Festival (JIMFF). He also is a famous film journalist and editor in Korea, working for Film 2.0, YTN, Yeonhap News, Munhwa Ilbo, nKINO among many others.

## Youngjin Kim

He started his career as a journalist for Cine21 in 1995 and has worked on the editorial staff of Film 2.0. He currently lectures at the Culture & Art Department of MyongJi University and has written numerous books including Asia Cinema Today (2012) and Four Rookie Directors (2008).

## Chan-il Jeon

Primarily a Korean based film critic, Jeon Chan-il, was appointed to the position of programmer of World Cinema for Asia's largest film festival, Busan. He will be visiting the festival to discuss with UK distributors what can be done to help increase the presence of Korean film in the UK.

## Jegy Ra

RA joined Hankook Ilbo, a Korean daily newspaper in 1999. He works as a film journalist and the Entertainment Team Leader on the Culture Desk. He writes a series of weekly movie columns, Cinemania and served on the jury of the 5th Cinema Digital Seoul Film Festival and the Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival.

## Hye-ri Kim

She is a well-known film journalist and editor for Cine 21, a Korean weekly film magazine. She has written books on films such as Stopping the Film (2008) and Talk to Her (2008). In 2008, she served on the jury of International Film Festival Rotterdam.

## Dr Choi Jin-hee

A lecturer at King's College London who specialises in East Asian cinema and the global film industry. She was originally educated at the Seoul National University gaining a BA and MA in Aesthetics before earning two Ph.Ds, one in Philosophy and another in Film Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in America.

# Korean Animation Exhibition at Korean Cultural Centre UK

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## *Manhwa, Korean Story and Paintings*

1-21 November 2012

Free admission

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The exhibition unveils a variety of interesting and unique paintings from famous Korean comics, cartoons and webtoons

Between Thursday the 1st and Wednesday the 21st November the Korean Culture Centre UK in London will be hosting an exhibition to showcase 47 works of Korean comic artists providing an insight into Korea's diverse history and culture. Among the works will be recognisable artists such as Min-Woo Hyung, super-star creator of the international best-seller Priest, adapted into a Hollywood movie starring Paul Bethany, respected pioneer Doo-Ho Lee and other modern manhwa masters including Jung-Hyun Suk (The Ghost 2006), Jeong-Taek Chae (Mr Kimchi 2012) and popular webtoonist Jude Friday.

### Monday 5 November 2012

Manhwa Artist Live Drawing Event and Showcase 'Discovery of the Original Manhwa Story' at the Korean Cultural Centre UK

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Korean Cultural Centre UK  
Opening Hours

Weekdays: 10am-5pm  
Saturdays: 11am-5pm  
Closed on Sundays



# Korean Film Nights 2012: The Year of the 12 Directors

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## Song Hae-seong

Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 7pm KCCUK  
*Rikidozan: A Hero Extraordinary*

The story of Rikidozan, a Sumo wrestler who was fundamental in the success of the sport in modern Japan. The film shows the battles the wrestler faced everyday being of Korean-Japanese descent.

Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 7pm KCCUK  
*Maundy*

Yu-jeong, a suicidal young woman, is introduced to a man on death row named Yun-soo. Though raised at the opposite ends of the social ladder they find similarities in each other's hardships.

Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 7pm KCCUK  
*Failan*

A petty thug, Kang-jae, is the butt of each gangsters jokes but his life is turned on its head when he receives a letter from his wife he never knew he had.

Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Nov 7pm KCCUK  
*A Better Tomorrow – No Q&A*

Hyuk, a weapon smuggler, and Chul, a policeman, are two brothers who have been separated since childhood. They join forces to get rid of a gang boss but can they trust each other when they have such different motives.

## Lim Soon-rye

Thurs Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 7pm KCCUK  
*Waikiki Brothers*

A travelling band are at the end of their ropes after one depressing gig after another. This begins to change when they return to their hometown to play at the Waikiki Hotel. Dec 13<sup>th</sup>

Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> 7pm KCCUK  
*Forever The Moment*

With the Olympics approaching Korea looks to win in all sports but the once successful Handball team are less than desirable. They women must pull themselves together if they want to make their families and country proud.

Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> 7pm KCCUK  
*Fly, Penguin*

A multi-story film looks at many aspects of Korean society and sees how the expectations of the country have affected the people growing up in it.

Thurs Dec 27<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm Apollo Cinema Piccadilly  
*Rolling Home With A Bull*  
+ Dir Q&A w/ Tony Rayns at Apollo Cinema Piccadilly

Jaded by a series of failures in Seoul, unknown poet, Sun-ho returns to his hometown to help his elderly parents work their farm. Fed up with having to clean up after their cow he sneaks out to sell off the bull at a cattle market. Along the way he meets the widow of his recently deceased best friend who he has been in love with most of his life.

THE  
YEAR  
OF THE  
12  
DIRECTORS

# SCHEDULE

1<sup>st</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> November in London  
10<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup> Nov in Glasgow, Bristol and Bournemouth

Thur 1 Nov	7pm	Opening Gala: <i>The Thieves</i> + Q&A w/ Dir. Choi Dong-hoon & Actor Kim Yoon-suk	Odeon West End
Fri 2 Nov	6.45pm 7pm	<i>Pace Maker</i> Special Screening: <i>The Thieves</i> + Q&A Director Choi Dong-hoon & Actor Kim Yoon-suk	ICA Odeon Kingston
	7pm 9.15pm	<i>The Big Swindle</i> <i>The Weight</i>	KCCUK ICA
Sat 3 Nov	3.30pm 4.30pm 6.30pm 8.30pm	<i>Katari: A Story of a Mother Bird</i> <i>Woochi</i> + Q&A with Director Choi Dong-hoon <i>Padak</i> <i>The King of Pigs</i>	ICA KCCUK ICA ICA
Sun 4 Nov	12.30am 2.30pm 5.35pm 7.30pm 8.00pm	Dancing Queen <i>Running Turtle</i> + Q&A with Actor Kim Yoon-Suk <i>Mr Idol</i> <i>Tazza: The High Rollers</i> <i>Mise-en-Scene Section 1</i>	ICA KCCUK ICA Odeon Panton St. ICA
Mon 5 Nov	6.30pm 8.45pm	<i>Papa</i> <i>Black Eagle</i>	Odeon Panton St. Odeon Panton St.
Tue 6 Nov	7pm 8.45 pm	<i>EunGyo</i> + Q&A with Director Jung Ji-woo <i>Dangerously Excited</i>	ICA Odeon Panton St.
Wed 7 Nov	6.30pm 8.10 pm 8.45 pm	<i>Gabi</i> <i>I Am</i> <i>All About My Wife</i>	Odeon Panton St. ICA Odeon Panton St.
Thir 8 Nov	5.45pm 6.30pm 8.45pm	<i>The Ugly Duckling</i> <i>The Grand Heist</i> <i>Deranged</i>	ICA Odeon Panton St. Odeon Panton St.
Fri 9 Nov	6pm 6.30pm 7pm 8.45pm	<i>White Night</i> <i>I am the King</i> <i>Korean Cinema Forum</i> <i>As One, Korea</i>	ICA Odeon Panton St. KCCUK Odeon Panton St.
Sat 10 Nov	2pm 3.35pm 7pm 8.30pm	<i>Padak</i> <i>Mise en Scène 2</i> Closing Gala: <i>Masquerade</i> + Q&A with Director Choo Chang-min & Actor Lee Byung Hun <i>Dancing Queen</i>	<b>Glasgow Grosvenor</b> Odeon Panton St. Odeon West End <b>Glasgow Grosvenor</b>
Sun 11 Nov	1.30pm 4.15pm 6.30pm 8.30pm 8.30pm	<i>A Barefoot Dream</i> <i>Acoustic</i> <i>Sleepless Night</i> <i>As one, Korea</i> <i>Spring Snow</i>	Odeon Panton St. ICA ICA <b>Glasgow Grosvenor</b> ICA
Mon 12 Nov	8.30pm	<i>EunGyo</i>	<b>Glasgow Grosvenor</b>
Tue 13 Nov	8pm	<i>The King of Pigs</i>	Bristol Cube
Wed 14 Nov	5.30pm 8pm	<i>I am the King</i> <i>White Night</i>	Bristol Cube Bristol Cube
Thur 15 Nov	6.30pm 8.45pm	<i>Sleepless Night</i> <i>Deranged</i>	Odeon Bournemouth Odeon Bournemouth
Fri 16 Nov	3pm	<i>Black Eagle</i>	Odeon Bournemouth

## VENUES

Odeon West End  
Leicester Square, London WC2  
[www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)

Odeon Panton Street  
11 Panton Street  
London SW1Y 4DP  
[www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)

Korean Cultural Centre  
UK(KCCUK)  
Grand Buildings, 1-3 Strand  
London WC2N 5BW  
[www.kccuk.org.uk](http://www.kccuk.org.uk)  
(Admission free, booking is required)

**Glasgow Grosvenor Cinema**  
34 Ashton Lane  
Glasgow G12 8SJ  
[www.grosvenorcinema.co.uk](http://www.grosvenorcinema.co.uk)

ICA London  
The Mall, London SW1  
[www.ica.org.uk](http://www.ica.org.uk)

Bristol Cube Cinema  
4 Princess Row, Bristol BS2 8NQ  
[www.cubecinema.com](http://www.cubecinema.com)

Odeon Kingston  
The Rotunda, Clarence Street  
Kingston Upon Thames KT1 1QP  
[www.odeon.co.uk](http://www.odeon.co.uk)

Odeon Bournemouth  
35-43 Westover Road  
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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF  
**WOOCHI TAZZA THE BIG SWINDLE**

# THE THIEVES



A CHOI DONG-HOON FILM A CAPER FILM PRODUCTION SHOWBOX/MEDIAPLEX PRESENTS  
 "THE THIEVES" KIM YUN-SEOK KIM HYE-SOO LEE JUNG-JAE GIANNA JUN SIMON YAM KIM HAE-SOOK OH DAL-SOO KIM SOO-HYUN DEREK TSANG AND LEE SIN-JE SHIN HA-KYUN  
 WITH A SHOWBOX/MEDIAPLEX EDITOR DEMOLITION DIRECTOR DIGITAL IDEA MUSIC BY KIM SEO-YOUNG COSTUME DESIGNER CHOI SE-YEON PRODUCTION DESIGNER YOO SANG-SEOB EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS EUN HEE-SOO AND JANG YOUNG-GYU DALPALAN  
 EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SHIN MIN-KYUNG PRODUCED BY LEE HA-JUN PRODUCED BY KIM SUNG-KWAN PRODUCED BY CHOI YOUNG-HWAN PRODUCED BY YOO JEONG-HUN PRODUCED BY AHN SOO-HYUN PRODUCED BY CHOI DONG-HOON LEE KI-CHEOL PRODUCED BY CHOI DONG-HOON



# BUSAN International Film Festival

**4-13 October, 2013**

**BUSAN CINEMA CENTER**  
 for Busan International Film Festival

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