HOLLYWOODGLEE, LLC
1226 N Salsipuedes Unit C 1(805)704-5994 |https://hollywoodglee.com Larry@HollywoodGlee.com

2024 Sundance Film Festival: Asia Program Announcement of Feature Films and Awarded Shorts

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

2024 Sundance Film Festival: Asia Program Announcement of Feature Films and Awarded Shorts with Electrifying Titles Spanning Three Continents

TICKETS ON SALE JULY 23: WWW.SUNDANCEFFASIA.COM

TAIPEI, TAIWAN, July 9, 2024 â?? G2Go Entertainment and the nonprofit Sundance Institute reveal the lineup of 10 feature fiction and documentary films, and a specially curated program of the 2024 Sundance Film Festivalâ??s award-winning shorts for the **Sundance Film Festival: Asia** in Taipei, Taiwan set to take place from 21 to 25 August at SPOT-Huashan.

The 10 feature films and 5 award-winning short films were showcased at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival in Utah in January and were specially curated for Taipei by the Sundance Film Festival

programming team. The Festival will open with the Taiwan premiere of ***DÃ¬di (å¼?å¼?)***, written and directed by Academy AwardÂ® nominated Taiwanese American filmmaker Sean Wang.

The lineup presents an array of international titles across films being represented from Europe, Asia, the United States, and South America.



Kneecap

These titles are: Rich Peppiattâ??s contagiously boisterous Irish-language film, ***Kneecap***, also winner of the 2024 Sundance Film Festival Audience Award: NEXT, starring Academy AwardÂ® nominee Michael Fassbender (*12 Years a Slave, Steve Jobs*); Josh Margolinâ??s action-packed ode to his real-life grandma, ***Thelma***, played by the witful Academy AwardÂ® nominee June Squibb (*Nebraska*); a poignant father-daughter story revolving around adulthood, ***Good One*****,** India Donaldsonâ??s first feature; monster rom-com ***Your Monster***, Caroline Lindyâ??s wholly original debut whose accolades include the Sundance Film Festival: London 2024 Audience Favorite Award; Jack Begertâ??s genre-bending directorial debut and winner of the 2024 Sundance Film Festival NEXT Innovator Award, ***Little Death***, starring David Schwimmer (*Friends, American Crime Story*); and winner of the 2024 Sundance Film Festival World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic, the deeply transcendent ***Sujo*** by longtime collaborators, Mexican writers/directors, Astrid Rondero and Fernanda Valadez.



Porcelain War

All three documentaries in the program were awarded prizes at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival. These include the winner of the U.S. Grand Jury Prize: Documentary, ***Porcelain War***, by the unwavering voices of Brendan Bellomo and Slava Leontyev; the winner of the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Documentary, ***A New Kind of Wilderness*** by Norwegian filmmaker Silje Evensmo Jacobsen; and the Directing Award: World Cinema Documentary winner, ***The Remarkable Life of Ibelin*** by another powerful Norwegian filmmaker, Benjamin Ree.

Taiwanese audienceâ??s appetite for compelling short stories is stronger than ever. As a special highlight of the festivalâ??s programming, a short film program consisting of shorts awarded by the 2024 Sundance Film Festival has been invited for a showcase. These titles and their respective awards from the Festival held in January include: ***Say Hi After You Die*** by Kate Jean Hollowell, winner of the Short Film Jury Award for U.S. Fiction; ***The Stag*** by An Chu which was awarded the Short Film Jury Award for International Fiction â?? An was also the recipient of the Asia festivalâ??s short film jury prize last year; ***Bug Diner*** by Phoebe Jane Hart, winner of the Short Film Jury Award for Animation; ***Bobâ??s Funeral*** by Jack Dunphy which took home the Short Film Jury Award for Nonfiction; completing this special shorts program is the winner of the Short Film Grand Jury Prize, ***The Masterpiece*** by Ã?lex Lora.

â??We are excited to return to Taipei for a second year with a fantastic lineup of films,â?• said **Eugene Hernandez, Director, Sundance Film Festival and Public Programming,** and **Kim Yutani, Sundance Film Festival Director of Programming**.



Kim Yutani, Sundance Film Festival Director of Programming

â??Itâ??s a privilege to bring 10 feature films and five short films from the 2024 Sundance Film Festival to Taiwanese audiences and to have the opportunity to connect with and foster the independent film community in Asia and around the world. We look forward to a spirited Sundance Festival Festival: Asia for our artists, audiences, and industry, and we canâ??t wait to interact with everyone at theaters and events in Taipei!â?•.

â??Weâ??re honored to have the Sundance Film Festival return to Taipei again this year,â?• said **Kevin Lin, Founder of G2Go Entertainment**. â??In our inaugural year in 2023, Sundance Film Festival: Asia in Taipei had over 3,000 attendees. With a larger slate of films this year, we hope to provide them to a broader audience. Weâ??re truly excited for Taiwanese movie lovers to catch these fantastic film premieres in a one-of-a-kind setting and opportunity on the large screen. We canâ??t wait to celebrate Sundance and independent film again in Taipei!â?•

FULL PROGRAM LISTINGS:

FICTION FEATURE FILMS:

DÃ¬di (å¼?å¼?) / U.S.A. (Director, Screenwriter, and Producer: Sean Wang, Producers: Carlos LÃ³pez Estrada, Josh Peters, Valerie Bush) â?? In 2008, during the last month of summer before high school begins, an impressionable 13-year-old Taiwanese American boy learns what his family canâ??t teach him: how to skate, how to flirt, and how to love your mom.

Cast: Izaac Wang, Joan Chen, Shirley Chen, Chang Li Hua. Fiction.

Good One / U.S.A. (Director, Screenwriter, and Producer: India Donaldson, Producers: Diana Irvine, Graham Mason, Wilson Cameron) â?? On a weekend backpacking trip in the Catskills, 17-year-old Sam contends with the competing egos of her father and his oldest friend. *Cast: Lily Collias, James Le Gros, Danny McCarthy. Fiction.*

Kneecap / Ireland (Director: Rich Peppiatt, Screenwriter: Rich Peppiatt, Producers: Trevor Birney, Jack Tarling, Co-Producers: Patrick Oâ??Neill) â?? Of the 80,000 native Irish speakers, 6,000 live in the North of Ireland and three of them became a rap group called Kneecap. This is the real-life story of how this anarchic Belfast trio became the unlikely figureheads of a civil rights movement to save and reinvigorate their mother tongue.

Cast: Liam Ã?g Ã? hAnnaidh, Naoise Ã? CaireallÃ¡in, JJ Ã? Dochartaigh, Michael Fassbender, Josie Walker, Simone Kirby. Fiction.

Little Death / U.S.A. (Director and Screenwriter: Jack Begert, Screenwriter: Dani Goffstein, Producers: Darren Aronofsky, Andy S. Cohen, Dylan Golden, Brendan Naylor, Sam Canter, Noor Alfallah) â?? A middle-aged filmmaker on the verge of a breakthrough. Two kids in search of a lost backpack. A small dog a long way from home.

Cast: David Schwimmer, Gaby Hoffmann, Dominic Fike, Talia Ryder, Jena Malone, Sante Bentivoglio. Fiction.

Sujo / Mexico, U.S.A., France (Directors, Screenwriters, and Producers: Astrid Rondero, Fernanda Valadez, Producers: Diana Arcega, Jewerl Keats Ross, Virginie Devesa, Jean-Baptiste Bailly-Maitre) â?? When a cartel gunman is killed, he leaves behind Sujo, his beloved 4-year-old son. The shadow of violence surrounds Sujo during each stage of his life in the isolated Mexican countryside. As he grows into a man, Sujo finds that fulfilling his fatherâ??s destiny may be inescapable. *Cast: Juan JesÃºs Varela, Yadira PÃ©rez, Alexis Varela, Sandra Lorenzano, Jairo HernÃ¡ndez, Kevin Aguilar. Fiction.*

Thelma / U.S.A. (Director and Screenwriter: Josh Margolin, Producers: ZoÃ« Worth, Chris Kaye, Nicholas Weinstock, Benjamin Simpson, Karl Spoerri, Viviana Vezzani) â?? When 93-year-old Thelma Post gets duped by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, she sets out on a treacherous quest across the city to reclaim what was taken from her. *Cast: June Squibb, Fred Hechinger, Richard Roundtree, Parker Posey, Clark Gregg, Malcolm McDowell. Fiction.*

Your Monster / U.S.A. (Director, Screenwriter, and Producer: Caroline Lindy, Producers: Kayla Foster, Shannon Reilly, Melanie Donkers, Kira Carstensen) â?? After her life falls apart, soft-spoken actress Laura Franco finds her voice again when she meets a terrifying, yet weirdly charming, monster living in her closet. *Cast: Melissa Barrera, Tommy Dewey, Meghann Fahy, Edmund Donovan, Kayla Foster. Fiction.*

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FILMS:

A New Kind of Wilderness / Norway (Director: Silje Evensmo Jacobsen, Producer: Mari Bakke Riise) â?? In a forest in Norway, a family lives an isolated lifestyle in an attempt to be wild and free, but a tragic event changes everything, and they are forced to adjust to modern society. *Documentary.*

Porcelain War / U.S.A., Ukraine (Director and Screenwriter: Brendan Bellomo, Director: Slava Leontyev, Producers and Screenwriters: Aniela Sidorska, Paula DuPrÃ© Pesmen, Producers: Camilla Mazzaferro, Olivia Ahnemann) â?? Under roaring fighter jets and missile strikes, Ukrainian artists Slava, Anya, and Andrey choose to stay behind and fight, contending with the soldiers they have become. Defiantly finding beauty amid destruction, they show that although itâ??s easy to make people afraid, itâ??s hard to destroy their passion for living. *Documentary.*

The Remarkable Life of Ibelin / Norway (Director: Benjamin Ree, Producer: Ingvil Giske) â?? Mats Steen, a Norwegian gamer, died of a degenerative muscular disease at the age of 25. His parents mourned what they thought had been a lonely and isolated life, when they started receiving messages from online friends around the world. *Documentary.*

SHORT FILM PROGRAM â?? 2024 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL AWARD-WINNING SHORTS:

Bobâ??s Funeral / USA

(Director, Screenwriter, and Producer: Jack Dunphy)

Searching for the root of generational trauma, the director takes a camera into his estranged grandfatherâ??s funeral.

Bug Diner / USA

(Director and Screenwriter: Phoebe Jane Hart)

A dissatisfied marriage, a secret crush, and workplace fantasies come to a head in a diner run by a mole with a hot ass.

The Masterpiece / Spain

(Director: Alex Lora Cercos, Screenwriters: Lluis Quilez, Alfonso Amador, Producers: Lluis Quilez, Sandra TravÃ©, Alex Lora Cercos, Josemari MartÃnez, NÃ©stor LÃ³pez)

Leo and Diana, a wealthy couple, meet Salif and Yousef, two scrap dealers, at a recycling center. Offering them more junk, Diana invites them to their mansion, but the immigrants actually might be the ones with something she wants.

Cast: Daneil Grao, Babou Cham, Melina Matthews, Adam Nourou, Guido Grao.

Say Hi After You Die / USA

(Director: Kate Jean Hollowell, Screenwriters: Kate Jean Hollowell, Ruby Caster. Producer: Miranda Kahn)

A grieving woman believes her deceased best friend has come back to visit herâ?¦ as a porta-potty.

Cast: Kate Jean Hollowell, Ruby Caster, George Basil.

The Stag / Taiwan

(Director: An Chu, Screenwriter: An Chu, Producers: Tzu-Yuan Wang, An Chu)

At a deer farm in Changhua County, a middle-aged man is asked to cut off a stagâ??s antlers in front of his two kids.

Cast: Yung-He Chen, Wei-Jen Chen, Si-Kai Chen.

Tickets go on sale 23 July and ticketing information can be found at: www.SundanceFFAsia.com

More upcoming news will be released regarding the Festivalâ??s 2024 Short Film Competition, where the finalists will be announced and their films to be screened as part of the Festivalâ??s lineup. In-person activities such as panels, panelists, and special guests will also be shared. Stay up to date on social media and join the conversation, Instagram: @SundanceFFAsia and Facebook: SundanceFFAsiaTW.

The **2024 Sundance Film Festival: Asia** is held in partnership with Taipei City and TAICCA, with event partners Cathay Financial Holdings, The State of Utah, and Gold House.

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Sundance Film Festival: Asia is an expansion of Sundance Instituteâ??s programming in the region, further championing and promoting visibility for independent storytelling before a wider global audience. Sundance Film Festival: Asia is a traveling event, moving throughout various cities across Asia. In 2022, the event was held in Jakarta, organized by XRM Media, IDN Times, and several other parties. 2023 marked the first year the festival was hosted in Taipei, Taiwan.

About Sundance Institute

As a champion and curator of independent stories, the nonprofit Sundance Institute provides and preserves the space for artists across storytelling media to create and thrive. Founded in 1981 by

Robert Redford, the Instituteâ??s signature labs, granting, and mentorship programs, dedicated to developing new work, take place throughout the year in the U.S. and internationally. Sundance Collab, a digital community platform, brings a global cohort of working artists together to learn from Sundance advisors and connect with each other in a creative space, developing and sharing works in progress.

The Sundance Film Festival and other public programs connect audiences and artists to ignite new ideas, discover original voices, and build a community dedicated to independent storytelling. Through the Sundance Institute artist programs, we have supported such projects as *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, *The Big Sick*, *Bottle Rocket*, *Boys Donâ??t Cry*, *Boys State*, *Call Me by Your Name*, *Clemency*, *CODA*, *Drunktownâ??s Finest*, *The Farewell*, *Fire of Love*, *Flee*, *The Forty-Year-Old Version*, *Fruitvale Station*, *Get Out*, *Half Nelson*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Hereditary*, *Honeyland*, *The Infiltrators*, *The Last Black Man in San Francisco*, *Little Woods*, *Love & Basketball*, *Me and You and Everyone We Know*, *Mudbound*, *Nanny, Navalny*, *O.J.: Made in America*, *One Child Nation*, *Pariah*, *Raising Victor Vargas*, *Requiem for a Dream*, *Reservoir Dogs*, *RBG*, *Sin Nombre*, *Sorry to Bother You*, *The Souvenir*, *Strong Island*, *Summer of Soul (â?¦Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)*, *Swiss Army Man* , *Sydney*, *A Thousand and One*, *Top of the Lake*, *Walking and Talking*, *Wonâ??t You Be My Neighbor?* , and *Zola.*

Through year-round artist programs, the Institute also nurtured the early careers of such artists as Paul Thomas Anderson, Wes Anderson, Gregg Araki, Darren Aronofsky, Lisa Cholodenko, Ryan Coogler, Nia DaCosta, The Daniels, David Gordon Green, Miranda July, James Mangold, John Cameron Mitchell, Kimberly Peirce, Boots Riley, Ira Sachs, Quentin Tarantino, Taika Waititi, Lulu Wang, and ChloÃ© Zhao. Support Sundance Institute in our commitment to uplifting bold artists and powerful storytelling globally by making a donation at sundance.org/donate. Join Sundance Institute on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter), and YouTube.

About G2Go Entertainment

G2Go stands for â??é??å ?ç??â?? or â??Chicken Rabbit Dogâ??, the zodiac signs of the Taiwanese founding members wanting to bring the best of the tech and entertainment world to Taiwan. Led by Kevin Lin, G2Go produces events, hosts activations, facilitates, and introduces key connections to trusted providers, with the simple purpose of helping elevate Taiwanâ??s presence in the global community.

Through an expansive network of accomplished Asian and American counterparts, G2Go connects international brands, ideas, and people to Taiwan, creating a bridge for future collaboration and the opportunity for more global exposure.

(Source: Press release from Sundance Institute)

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Date Created
July 9, 2024
Author
hollywoodglee