



Contact: Laura Fong, Public Relations
Email: laurajfong@gmail.com
Phone: 415-596-5803

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THE THIRD ANNUAL DISORIENT ASIAN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL OF OREGON ANNOUNCES LINEUP FOR APRIL 24-27 AT BIJOU ART CINEMAS

DISORIENT WILL PRESENT 8 FEATURE FILMS AND OVER 50 SHORTS WITH WORKSHOPS, VISITING FILMMAKERS, ACTORS AND AFTER-PARTIES!!!

EUGENE, Ore. – April 6, 2008 – The Chinese American Benevolent Association’s DisOrient Asian American Film Festival of Oregon announced today the line-up of films for its third year at the Bijou Art Cinemas from Thursday, April 24 to Sunday, April 27.

Festival-goers will be treated to four jam-packed days of films, workshops, parties, panels and national celebrities such as actor Roger Fan (*Better Luck Tomorrow*, *Annapolis*, *Finishing the Game*) and director Michael Kang (*The Motel*, *West 32nd*) to present their new films not yet available in theaters. Out of over 80 film submissions, our jury selects only the best new films and brings directors, actors and industry professionals to Eugene, Oregon.

This year DisOrient has films about Japanese American internment, gay and lesbian Asian Americans, interracial relationships, Asian adoptees, as well as Northwest local shorts, 72 Hour Competition Shootout shorts, “haunted” shorts, comedies and dramas.

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS

OPENING NIGHT - Thursday, April 24 – Bijou Art Cinemas



WEST 32nd – A Film by Michael Kang – Director Michael Kang (*THE MOTEL*) returns in his second outing with *WEST 32nd*. Highly considered as one of Asian American rising young directors, Kang delivers a beautifully shot film set in one city block in Manhattan’s Koreatown. Stars John Cho (*Harold and Kumar, Star Trek*) and Grace Park (*Battlestar Galactica*). Director

Michael Kang will be in attendance and answer questions following both screenings.

CENTERPIECE FILM – Saturday, April 26 – Bijou Art Cinemas



BABY – A Film by Juwan Chung – Described by many as the Asian American answer to **BOYZ N THE HOOD**, director Juwan Chung’s **BABY** is a disturbing and dark look at urban gang life in East Los Angeles. **Baby** is one of the most unforgettable of this year’s festival, especially with the acting of newcomer David Hyunh who plays child-gangster **Baby**. Director Juwan Chung, producer Jason Serrato and actor David Hyunh will be in attendance and will answer questions following the screening.

CLOSING NIGHT – Sunday, April 27 – Bijou Art Cinemas



PING PONG PLAYA – A Film by Jessica Yu – Academy Award documentary winning director Jessica Yu (**IN THE REALMS OF THE UNREAL**) delves into new territory for her first narrative feature. This laugh out-loud feature comedy centers on the Wang family’s younger son Christopher, a.k.a “C-Dub,” who dreams of playing professional basketball in order to escape his dead-end job, living in the suburbs, his bossy older brother and running his Mom’s ping pong classes. Co-writer and actor Jimmy Tsai and actor Roger Fan will both be in attendance.

FREE SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday, April 24 – Sheldon High School, Multicultural Center



HIDDEN INTERNMENT: THE ART SHIBAYAMA STORY – Directed by Irum Shiekh, Casey Peek, Grace Shimizu – **Hidden Internment** reveals the long concealed history of how the U.S. government kidnapped and interned over 2,000 Japanese Latin Americans and used them for hostage exchange with Japan during World War II. Reveals the lesser-known history of the Japanese-Latin American boy named Art Shibayama, who was taken from Peru on March 22, 1944 and interned in Crystal City, Texas for two years. Despite this internment, Art was denied equal redress provided to Japanese Americans. Producer and Director Grace Shimizu will be in attendance.

STUDENT SHORT FILMS – Screening of films by middle and high school students in the 2007 Pan Asian American Rites of Passage (ROP) summer program.

Friday, April 25 – University of Oregon, Lillis Hall Room 111



INTRODUCTION TO FILMMAKING WITH WILLIAM LU – Part behind-the-scenes and part film school crash course, Los Angeles based director William Lu (SPY MOMS) will screen his new short film ATF: ASIAN TASK FORCE and speak on the process of filmmaking from start to finish. Hosted by the University of Oregon's Cultural Forum, the free workshop will be held on the University of Oregon campus in Lillis Hall Room 111 from 3 to 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 27 – Guild Room, St. Mary's Episcopal Church

PANEL – Co-presented by Basic Rights Oregon – Following the program “LGBTQ Shorts: Arranged Family Secrets,” a panel will be held with Jessica Lee, a Basic Right Oregon staffer from Portland educated in filmmaking, and Pastor Israel Alvaron of the documentary film “In God's House.”

ABOUT DISORIENT

The DisOrient Asian American Film Festival of Oregon is a community, grassroots, and volunteer-run film festival committed to presenting honest portrayals of the diversity of Asian American experiences. We believe in the power of film to educate, positively transform our community, and challenge the negative stereotypes of the 'Oriental' presented by mainstream media. We use the W.E.B. DuBois standard of "for us, by us, or about us" when selecting new and exciting films for our festival.



DisOrient is a program of the Chinese American Benevolent Association (CABA), a 501(c)(3) non-profit cultural arts organization that also runs youth groups such as the Chinese Lion Dance Troupe and the Grassroots Asian Dance Team (formerly Asian Fan Dancers) which are comprised of middle school, high school, and college age students. CABA also offers college scholarships for local Asian American youth and aspiring filmmakers.

FOR TICKET INFO AND FULL FESTIVAL SCHEDULE, VISIT:

www.disorientfilm.org

THANK YOU, SPONSORS!

The Third Annual DisOrient Asian American Film Festival of Oregon is presented by the following sponsors: UO School of Journalism and Communication, FireAde, Moving Image Productions, All State Real Estate - Pamela Quan, Rehabilitation Medicine Associates - Victor Lin, Lane Community College, Bel Ami, Eugene Weekly, Contec Group International Ltd., City of Eugene, Asian Council, Oregon Electric Station, Eugene School District 4J, Days Inn, Quality Inn & Suites, InterVision, UO Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity, Langenburg Oxygen Water Company, Cozmic Pizza, Koke Printing Co., Peggy Nagae Consulting, APA Compass, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon—Political Action Committee (APANO-PAC), Basic Rights of Oregon (BRO), Boba Bubble, Campus Inn, Citizens Bank, City of Eugene Human Rights Commission, Community Alliance of Lane County (CALC), Coulbourne Ins. and Financial Services Inc., Dennis Michalek Ins. Inc. - All State, Golden Orient restaurant, Hyphen magazine, Ninkasi Brewing Company, Pacific Northwest Publishing, Inc., Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), Smith Family Bookstore, South Eugene High School, Tao Productions & Taboo Night Club, Tom's Tea House, UO Multicultural Center, UO Asian/Pacific Student Union (APASU), Valley River Inn, Brails, Euphoria Chocolate Company, Kio Company, Mary Kay by Viki Little, Planned Parenthood, Supreme Bean, Target, UO Office of Multicultural Academic Support, Wine Styles, Misa Joo, Mike & Eve Takahashi, Anselmo & Rose Mary Villanueva, Carrie Matsushita, Howard & Marvy Schuman, Jason Cummings & Lydia Cheung, Jiannbin Lee Shiao, Jok & Katrina Ang, Junko Iwao Toll & William Toll, Marshall & Laura Fong, Mary J. Mori & Jerry Hawn, Michael Samano & Rosa Chavez, Remie Calalang, Rosa Sakanishi & Robert Watada, Sei Isogai & Tadashi Taguchi, Shigemoto Kasahara, Alice & Melvin Aikens, Donald Moon Lee, Harold Neth, Howard & Norene Pergament, Jeanie & Steve Mah, Katsuhiko Shibamiya, Linda Hamilton, Lois Yoshishige, Lorna Ho, Martha Choe, Michiyo Ikegami, Noriko Akiya, Twila Souers, Viki Little, Virginia Ng & Gabe Choy, Yuko Tanaka, Bonnie NG, Douglas and Donna Crispin, Ellen Kobayashi, Gary & Rita Rose, Lisa Albrich, Mia Tuan & Michael Welch, Michael Simpson, Bijou Art Cinemas.

FOR PRESS SCREENINGS, PLEASE CONTACT:

Laura Fong, Public Relations
415-596-5803
laurajfong@gmail.com