



[www.disorientfilm.org](http://www.disorientfilm.org)

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THE FOURTH ANNUAL DISORIENT ASIAN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL OF OREGON ANNOUNCES LINEUP FOR APRIL 17-19 AT BIJOU ART CINEMAS

DISORIENT WILL PRESENT 8 FEATURE FILMS AND OVER 25 SHORTS WITH A WORKSHOP, VISITING FILMMAKERS, ACTORS AND AFTER-PARTIES!!!

EUGENE, OR – April 12, 2009 – The Chinese American Benevolent Association’s DisOrient Asian American Film Festival of Oregon announced the line-up of films for its fourth year at the Bijou Art Cinemas from Friday, April 17 to Sunday, April 19.

Festival attendees can experience three well-rounded days of films, workshops, parties, panels and special guests. Out of over 60 film submissions this year, our jury selected only the best new films. After its premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in January, Tze Chun will be present at the festival to show his feature film CHILDREN OF INVENTION at the DisOrient Film Festival.

This year DisOrient has films about immigration rights, gender equality, Asian American identity and movement, and the culture of American business and spending.

#### HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS

OPENING NIGHT – Friday, April 17 – Bijou Art Cinemas

CHILDREN OF INVENTION – Elaine Cheng (Cindy Cheung, LADY IN THE WATER) wants nothing more than to help her family out of tough economic times. She works odd jobs and can’t get any help from her estranged husband. But after she and her two children Tina (Crystal Chiu) and Raymond (Michael Chen) are evicted from their home, Elaine has no choice but to squat in an unfinished apartment building. However all this changes for Tina and Raymond when one day, Elaine never comes home.

An Official Selection of the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, Tze Chun’s “Children of Invention” is making a bold statement in the world of independent film. His prior work includes Official Sundance Selection WINDOWBREAKER and Tribeca Film Festival’s All Access Program feature ARTIFICIAL DISSEMINATION. Chun was also chosen as one of Filmmaker Magazine’s “25 New Faces of Independent Film” in 2007.

*Director Tze Chun and Producer Trevor Sagan will be in attendance.*

CENTERPIECE FILM – Saturday, April 18 – Bijou Art Cinemas

**KARMA CALLING** - The great American melting pot has landed the Raj family in the soup. Family head Ram Raj is sinking into credit card debt and has to call the Indian mafia in Hoboken for help. His daughter Sonal is losing her heart to call-center operator Rob Roy without realizing he's across a couple of oceans practicing accent naturalization. Her brother Shyam is a college drop-out with a hip-hop album, Hapa Means Weed in Japanese. Their little sister Jamuna wants to have the first Hindu Bat Mitzvah. Their mother has her hands full with a widowed sister-in-law from India who is rearranging all the kitchen cabinets and covering up the lingerie-clad mannequins at the Busy Lady Plaza. And to add to the masala mix there's Radha, a mail-order bride from India promised to a Dollar Store mogul, who finds her big fat Indian wedding might be a little more bargain basement than she had envisioned. ~ Sandip Roy, San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival

CLOSING NIGHT – Sunday, April 19 – Bijou Art Cinemas

**WHITE ON RICE** – Jimmy (Hiroshi Watanabe, **LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA**) loves dinosaurs and sleeps on the top bunk. Unfortunately, Jimmy is 40 and shares that bunk with Bob (Justin Kwong), his 10-year-old nephew. Freshly divorced, Jimmy lives with his sister Aiko (Japanese Academy Award winner Nae) and her family while boldly searching for a new wife. His brother-in-law, Tak thinks he's a disaster. And although Jimmy may lack social grace, he is convinced the best years of his life are just beginning. His plan seems like it's all falling into place when Tak's beautiful niece Ramona (Lynn Chen, **SAVING FACE**) moves in. But once Jimmy sets his sights on stealing her from his best friend Tim (James Kyson Lee, **HEROES**) he sees his intentions go hilariously awry.

Dave Boyle's second film **WHITE ON RICE** is a warm, quirky film that reminds us that we don't have to grow up to move forward. While the surface is a lighthearted comedy the whole family can enjoy, Boyle has created a subtle and heartfelt story about a family's ability to adapt, persevere and remember how to show their love for one another.

*Director Dave Boyle and actor Hiroshi Watanabe will be in attendance.*

FREE SPECIAL EVENT: Friday, April 17 – UO Lillis Room 111 – Filmmaking Workshop

“Make Movies, Don't Quit Your Day Job:” Do-It-Yourself Filmmaking with J.P. Chan

Topics covered will be guided primarily by class participants, but will include the creative process, equipment, marketing, film festivals, and funding. Most importantly, attendees will learn how filmmakers made movies before film school: by making them. This workshop will include an exclusive screening of JP's **THREE USES OF THE KNIFE** trilogy and his award-winning **BEIJING HAZE** (Winner of 2008 DisOrient *Third Eye Award*).

UNIVERSITY STUDENT FILMMAKERS PREMIERE SHORT DOCUMENTARY

On Saturday, April 18, DisOrient will screen the world premiere of the short documentary **THE AKAKA BILL**, directed by brothers Trevor Atkins and Hayden Atkins, who are former and present students of the Univ. of Oregon's School of Journalism and Communication, respectively. Their film looks at a bill that would federally recognize Native Hawaiians as indigenous people.

STUDENT SHORT FILMS – Screening of films by middle and high school students in the 2008 Pan Asian American Rites of Passage (ROP) summer program.

## 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](http://www.disorientfilm.org)

## THANK YOU, SPONSORS

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