

WAVES

NEW

A PROGRAMME BY
SINGAPORE
INTERNATIONAL
FILM
FESTIVAL

RE-FRAMING ASIAN STORIES:

FILM FOR ALTERNATIVE VOICES

2020 has been an unprecedented year, changing the nature of the way we think, behave, and communicate. At SGIFF, we've had to respond.

While the pandemic waits for its cinematic reaction, the year has produced other themes – identities, the role of women filmmakers – that have gained impetus. We've looked to these for this year's New Waves.

Our extended programme of work from the broader Asian region brings together young directors with established filmmakers. Their unique and powerful stories reflect courageously on the past while evoking principles of change, necessary or desired. With female filmmakers at the centre, the films champion new voices, approach traditional messages from fresh angles, and have the potential to positively shape the way we look at our communities.

24—25
October 2020
Oldham Theatre
Tickets at \$5

Please check film ratings before registration, updated on our website.

Learn more at sgiff.com/newwaves

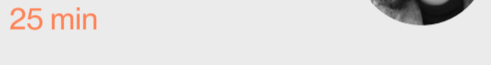
SILENCE AND CRIES: ON BEING HEARD

Short film screening
24 October, Saturday 3pm | 65mins

Three films from up-and-coming young directors making use of unique symbols and messages to challenge narratives about the present and the past. Films by and about voices demanding to be heard.



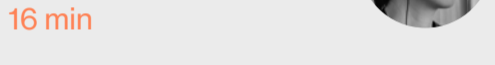
A Hand Written Poster
Dir. Eunmi Kwak/
South Korea/2017/
25 min



Courage and comradeship come into conflict when a student receives a threatening letter.



Blind Mouth
Dir. Siew-Hong Leong/
Taiwan, Malaysia/2017/
16 min



In a dystopian world, the power of speech is the bond between a man and his daughter.



Home, and a Distant Archive
Dir. Dorothy Cheung/
HK, The Netherlands/
2020/24 min

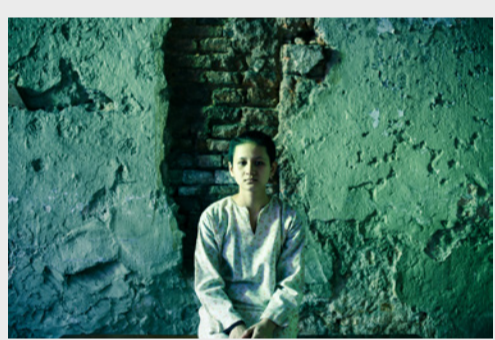


The archiving of Hong Kong's history and the power of translation for a new generation.

SHIFTING IDENTITIES: ON BEING LIBERATED

Short film screening
24 October, Saturday 6.30pm | 56mins

Who are we? What makes us who we are? Questions of identity, culture and spirituality are reflected in these contrasting films, where the fluidity of being who we are is exposed. These films propose that not all identities are fixed, and accepting otherness can be liberating.



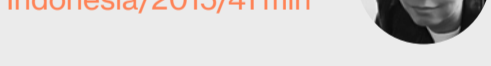
TABOO
Dir. Charlotte Lim Lay
Kuen/Malaysia/2019/
15 min



A young woman's identity gradually merges with that of a dog, affecting the people around her.



Calalai: In-Betweenness
Dir. Kiki Febriyanti/
Indonesia/2015/41 min



In South Sulawesi, Indonesia, the Bugis people have five genders. So who are the Calalai?

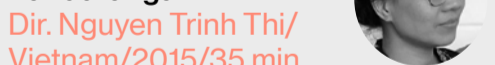
PORTRAITS AND LANDSCAPES: ON GOING PLACES

Short film screening
25 October, Sunday 12pm | 60mins

How do we define place? And how does place define us? In the first film of this programme, acclaimed Vietnamese artist Nguyen Trinh Thi's Chris Marker-inspired journey through Vietnam paints both portraits and landscapes and ultimately asks if landscape may also have a gender. Singaporean director Madeleine Lim's seminal documentary contrasts the relative experiences of identity felt by those who move between cities, countries and continents – how attitudes shift, and how they are expressed and are received.



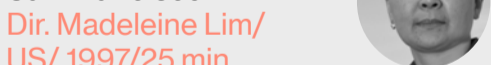
Letters From Panduranga
Dir. Nguyen Trinh Thi/
Vietnam/2015/35 min



A road movie following an exchange of letters taking us deep into the shifting identities of Vietnam's landscape.



Sambal Belacan in San Francisco
Dir. Madeleine Lim/
US/ 1997/25 min



The shifting identity of sexuality in the transition from one location to another in this rare Singaporean classic.

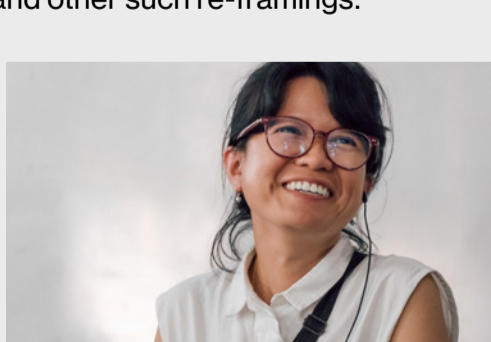
FOREGROUND AND BACKGROUND: WOMEN IN FILM

Online Panel Discussion
25 October, Sunday 3.30—5.30pm

How should we approach subjects through the cinematic lens? Taking inspiration from *Letters from Panduranga* which contrasts the intimacy of portraits with the breadth of landscapes, we ask: should we foreground ideas, bring them into stark close-up, or instead, let them work in the background to shake up the scenery? Our distinguished panel of artist-filmmakers, Nguyen Trinh Thi, Charlotte Lim, Jasmine Ng and Silke Schmickl explore these and other such re-framings.



Nguyen Trinh Thi is an acclaimed filmmaker and media artist based in Hanoi, where in 2009 she founded DOCLAB for independent filmmakers. Her work has been exhibited worldwide.



Charlotte Lim Lay Kuen is a Malaysian filmmaker whose work draws heavily on the poetic. Her feature debut, *My Daughter* (2009) was nominated for a Tiger Award in Rotterdam.



Jasmine Ng is a filmmaker and artist whose work spans cinema, television and the theatre. She is currently President of the SAMPP (Singapore Association of Motion Picture Professionals).



Silke Schmickl is a curator at National Gallery Singapore. She has worked extensively with moving image artists throughout the world, notably in Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Q&A with Filmmakers

This year's New Waves Q&A will take a different form. Please submit your questions for the filmmakers at sgiff.com/newwaves-qna within 30 minutes after the film ends. SGIFF will pose some of your questions to the filmmakers and the recorded Q&A will be available for viewing at sgiff.com and SGIFF's social media channels a couple of days later.