

26 April/4 May 2019 – Udine – Teatro Nuovo and Cinema Centrale

# FAR EAST FILM FESTIVAL 21

Programme for Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May

## ANTHONY WONG

**The Hong Kong superstar returns to the  
Far East Film Festival after 20 years!**

**Back in Udine to collect his Golden Mulberry  
Award for Outstanding Achievement and  
present the wonderful *Still Human*.**

Press release for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2019  
For immediate release

UDINE – **Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May**. Penultimate day of the **21<sup>st</sup> Far East Film Festival**. After **Jeon Do-yeon** and **Yao Chen**, it's time to turn the festival's spotlights on another **superstar: Anthony Wong!** He's played the lead in masterpieces like Johnnie To's ***The Mission***. He's starred in unforgettable cult movies like Andrew Lau and Alan Mak's ***Infernal Affairs***. He's been a hit man, a cop, a romantic hero and a serial killer. He's played every role in every genre, from crime and comedy to fantasy and splatter. His filmography is practically infinite, and it's no exaggeration to say that he is **the face of the last thirty years of Hong Kong cinema...**

Already a guest at the **very first edition of the FEFF** in 1999, when he presented *Beast Cops* by Gordon Chan and Dante Lam, Anthony now returns to Udine exactly twenty years later to collect his **Golden Mulberry Award for Outstanding Achievement** (taking his place in the Udine hall of fame alongside other giants of Asian cinema including **Jackie Chan, Joe Hisaishi, Feng Xiaogang, Johnnie To** and **Brigitte Lin**). A precious opportunity to see - or to see again - **Mr. Wong** close-up and to applaud **two films** that symbolise his history: his debut movie ***My Name Ain't Suzie***, screened on April 30th, and

the magnificent ***Still Human***, showing at **7.40 pm today**, which will see Anthony take the stage of the FEFF together with the film's director **Oliver Chan** and co-star **Crisel Consunji**.

**Oliver Chan** was crowned **best new director** (and **Crisel Consunji** nominated for best actress and best new actress) at the last **Hong Kong Film Festival**, and another film that was an awards hit at the festival is in the line-up for the **eighth day of the FEFF**: nail-biting thriller ***Project Gutenberg*** by Felix Chong. Pure **Hong Kong** style!

**9.00**

**A First Farewell**

**by Lina WANG (China, 2018)**

Though still a child, Isa already has adult responsibilities: he must take care of his sick mother, watch the flock and attend school. He spends his only moments of leisure with his best friends, the children of a couple of cotton growers. A poetic tribute to a way of life that is disappearing: this, perhaps, is the farewell to which the title of the film alludes.

**10.40**

**Hotel Soul Good**

**by YAN Pak-wing (Hong Kong, 2018)**

After a near-death experience, hotel executive Katy discovers she can see ghosts. Thanks to this, she now has some new friends: three spirits stuck in limbo who, in order to settle their pending accounts, must find a body they can possess to realize their desires. But Katy has a stroke of genius: opening a hotel for ghosts. A retro romantic comedy that celebrates kindred "spirits".

**12.35**

**BNK48: Girls Don't Cry**

**by THAMRONGRATTANARIT Nawapol (Thailand, 2018)**

With more than 50 members, Thai pop group BNK48 – along with the crazed fandom typical of Asian idols - is turning the country upside down. This documentary raises the curtain to show what's behind the scenes: to get the best performances out of the group, the girls are forced to compete against their best friends, and the singers find themselves imprisoned in a never-ending popularity contest.

**14.35**

**Project Gutenberg**

**by Felix CHONG (Hong Kong, 2018)**

The Hong Kong police are on the trail of a gang of counterfeiters, led by a mysterious boss called "Painter": their ruthlessness and skill at counterfeiting make them public enemy number one. Desperate times call for desperate measures, and in order to stop them the department is forced to recruit a well-known forger. A tense new thriller by the creators of *Infernal Affairs*.

**17.00**

**Dare to Stop Us**

**by SHIRAIISHI Kazuya (Japan, 2018)**

Young Megumi enters the flamboyant world of the independent Japanese cinema of the '70s, of which the *enfant terrible* is Wakamatsu. Full of unbridled creativity, Wakamatsu makes pioneering 'pink' films that use sex and violence to critique the society of the day. A

film about the subversive power of cinema but also the portrait of an oddball "family" and the bonds that keep it together.

**19.40**

**Still Human**

**by Oliver CHAN (Hong Kong, 2018)**

Leung has been paralysed for years and can only move his arms. Considering himself a victim of life, he has closed in on himself - but despite his difficult character, an affectionate relationship forms little by little with his carer, who helps him to realize his dream. A delicate story told with powerful realism featuring an incredible performance from Anthony Wong

**21.55**

**Fly Me to the Saitama**

**by TAKEUCHI Hideki (Japan, 2019)**

The centre vs the suburbs: it's a rivalry as old as cities themselves. And if the city is a Tokyo that looks like a new Versailles and persecutes the inhabitants of the less dashing Saitama, things get complicated fast and war is inevitable. Will modern-day Romeo and Juliette Momomi and Rei manage to bring peace? From the director of *Thermae Romae*, an outrageously pop, all-out manga-style comedy!

**0.00**

**The Devil Fish**

**by David CHUANG (Taiwan, 2018)**

In Taiwanese folklore, to kill a demon you must trap it inside a fish which is then fried. After catching one of these fish, a gangster becomes possessed and kills his entire family. Taoist priest Chen is called in to perform an exorcism - but when a young boy films the ceremony and shares it with his friends, the curse starts to spread...

**Press Office / Far East Film Festival 21**

**Gianmatteo Pellizzari & Ippolita Nigris Cosattini  
with Eugenio De Angelis**

347/0950890 – 349/0665417

[feff@cecudine.org](mailto:feff@cecudine.org) - [stampafareastfilm@gmail.com](mailto:stampafareastfilm@gmail.com)