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

FAR EAST FILM FESTIVAL 21

Programme for Tuesday the 30th of April

THE ZOMBIES RETURN TO THE FEFF!

After zombie hit *One Cut of the Dead*, here come *Rampant* and *The Odd Family*!

And don't miss family drama *The Rib* and *My Name Ain't Suzie*, Anthony Wong's debut film.

Press release for the 29th of April 2019 For immediate release

UDINE – Tuesday the 30th of April. After the triumph of *One Cut of the Dead* (a smash hit in Japan that won the Silver Mulberry at FEFF 2018 and a distribution deal with Tucker Film), the zombies are back in Udine. And this time, they're not coming from the Land of the Rising Sun but from South Korea, in Kim Sung-hoon's irresistible zombie *wuxia Rampant* and Lee Min-jae's hilarious zombie comedy *The Odd Family*. "Just how many variations of that horror cornerstone the living dead can there there be?" you might be asking yourselves. Well, if you think you've seen them all, the fifth day of the Far East Film Festival 21 will prove you wrong...

There's more to the **fifth day** than just zombies, of course: there are eight films scheduled at the **Teatro Nuovo**, and highlights include Chinese family drama **The Rib** by Zhang Wei (a father devoted to tradition and his transgender daughter) and the film debut of **Anthony Wong**, special guest star of the **twenty-first edition** (on **Friday the 3**rd **of May** he will be collecting his **Golden Mulberry Lifetime Achievement award**): **My Name Ain't Suzie**, by Angie Chan. Hong Kong's riposte to Hollywood classic **The World of Suzie Wong**.

Asia-Europe co-production workshop **Ties That Bind**, now in its eleventh edition (**with 10 projects selected**), kicked off on the **29**th **of April**, and today on **April the 30**th it's time for **Focus Asia** - the project market dedicated to "films of tomorrow" with potential for co-production and co-financing in Europe or Asia (**15 projects selected**) – to get to work. **Over 200 professionals from 36 countries are expected in Udine** for a packed programme consisting of panels, one-on-one meetings, screenings and networking opportunities.

9.00

Default

by CHOI Kook-hee (South Korea, 2018)

1997: a Korean bank functionary attempts to prevent the national financial crisis she realises is coming. A financial consultant tries to fight back against it with risky investments. A small business owner signs a big contract, unaware of the looming disaster. In a single week their lives are turned upside down and Korea is forced to declare bankruptcy. A solid financial drama starring a Mephistophelian Vincent Cassel.

11.05

JK Rock

by MUGURUMA Shunji (Japan, 2019)

U2's The Edge claims grown-ups can't really play rock'n'roll, and Shunji Muguruma's film seems to be the proof of it. The manager of a small bar puts together a rock band featuring three high school girls. To help them on their way, he calls in handsome and rebellious Joe who has unfinished business with rock, with his old band (Jokers) and with his namesake - a former friend who went off to America on the crest of a wave of success.

12.50

A Speck in the Water

by Ishmael BERNAL (Philippines, 1976 – 2018)

Ferry owner Benjamin's regular passenger Chedeng is about to become a midwife. Chedeng has a friend and neighbour called Maria, and without either of them knowing about the other, both Chedeng and Maria are involved in relationships with Benjamin. When Maria discovers she is pregnant, she becomes Chedeng's first patient, and the situation takes a tragic turn.

15.10

The Rib

by ZHANG Wei (China, 2018)

When young trans woman Huanyu decides to undergo gender confirmation surgery, her father Jianguo, a widower and devoted member of a Christian community, suddenly finds himself faced with a situation he doesn't know how to deal with. A story that might seem commonplace to Western audiences becomes a courageous - and necessary - act of defiance in a culture like that of China.

16.50

Rampant

by KIM Sung-hoon (South Korea, 2018)

Korea, the Jeseon era. The crown is threatened by rebellion and court intrigues, but all this is irrelevant in the face of the greatest threat of all: a disease that is spreading from the

provinces and which turns people into ravenous zombies. A monstrously enjoyable genre crossover that is a pyrotechnic mash-up of zombie movie, costume drama and *wuxia*!

19.40

The Crossing

by BAI Xue (China, 2018)

Every day, tens of thousands of people cross the border between Shenzhen and Hong Kong. Among them is 16 year old Peipei, who lives in Shenzhen with her alcoholic mother and often visits her father and his new family in Hong Kong. At a party she meets Hao and his friends, a gang of petty criminals who smuggle iPhones across the border, and Peipei agrees to become their courier...

21.40

The Odd Family: Zombie On Sale by LEE Min-jae (South Korea, 2019)

Or how to make a killing from the undead. The head of a messed-up family is bitten by a zombie, but instead of turning into a zombie himself, he starts getting younger. His relatives smell an opportunity to make some money, and start a business that has the town's old people lining up for their bizarre fountain of youth. But as we all know, when you're dealing with zombies, disaster is always around the corner...

23.50

Fly By Night

by Zahir OMAR (Malaysia, 2018)

A taxi driver uses his job as a cover for an extortion racket - but when his brother's impulsive behaviour brings the police and the triads to his doorstep, he will stop at nothing to protect his family. A vivid, refined and bloodthirsty thriller with a dark and fatalistic heart that adheres to the conventions of genre while managing to make them feel fresh and exciting.

Press Office / Far East Film Festival 21

Gianmatteo Pellizzari & Ippolita Nigris Cosattini with Eugenio De Angelis 347/0950890 – 349/0665417 feff@cecudine.org - stampafareastfilm@gmail.com