

International Short Film Festival - Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2016 Full video for symposium focusing on the Southeast Asian Film Industry “Now” is available online

Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (SSFF & ASIA), one of Asia’s largest international short film festivals, has joined hands again this year with the Japan Foundation Asia Center to establish a symposium program and short film screenings that focus on Southeast Asia. Last year, we introduced the first set of the symposium featuring countries from Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore and Laos on the website below.

This new video recording of the symposium at this year’s event, which welcomed film professionals from Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia and Myanmar, is now available in full video via the SSFF & ASIA project website. As last year, the symposium addressed four primary topics: 1) How short film is positioned and considered by the film industry in each country; 2) What the situation is of short film production in each country; 3) How the skills of up-and-coming filmmakers are being nurtured in each country; and 4) How Southeast Asian countries can work together to support each other in the future. From these topics, various areas were discussed, as the four participating Southeast Asian countries have different political, religious and economical conditions. In Malaysia, for example, short films are often made along with advertisement purposes. Meanwhile, in Myanmar, short documentaries are easier to be made because of the cheaper budgets, etc.

Furthermore, there is a guest column published regularly on the project website where essays by guest writers discussing film production in Southeast Asia are uploaded.

Please kindly share this information to all related media platforms.

<SSFF & ASIA project website>

http://www.shortshorts.org/southeast_asia/index-en.php (2016)

http://www.shortshorts.org/southeast_asia2015/en/ (2015)



【SSFF & ASIA 2016】Panel discussing short film as a tool for communication in Southeast Asian societies



Panelists of the symposium

【Symposium Panelists】

Lamin Oo / Documentary Filmmaker, Producer (Myanmar)

Phuong Hoang Nguyen / General Manager of the Center for Assistance and Development of Movie Talents (Vietnam)

Tan Chui Mui / Filmmaker, Co-founder of Da Huang Pictures, Founder of Next New Wave (Malaysia)

Salaithip Jarupoom / Film Lecturer at Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)

The Japan Foundation Asia Center (www.jfac.jp)

At the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit Meeting in December 2013, the Japanese Government announced a vision statement on a new policy for Cultural Exchanges in Asia – “WA Project – Toward Interactive Asia”. Serving to achieve two-way art/cultural exchanges and supporting Japanese language learners, the Japan Foundation launched a new department, the Asia Center in April 2014. The Asia Center carries out various projects to foster deeper, mutual understanding and further develop relationships between Japan and our fellow Asian countries.

About Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (www.shortshorts.org/)

SSFF & ASIA is a qualifying film festival for the annual Academy Awards® and one of Asia’s largest international short film festivals. Japanese Actor Tetsuya Bessho founded the festival in the Harajuku neighborhood of Tokyo in 1999, and the festival has reached an audience of 340,000 to date. At the inaugural edition, six short films directed by George Lucas – the famed creator of “Star Wars” – back in his student days were screened. We have received support from this maestro director every year thereafter.

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