



MACAO GOVERNMENT TOURISM OFFICE

MACAO TO HOST ITS FIRST EVER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AND AWARDS



05 December 2016 – Macao is getting ready to host its first ever International Film Festival and Awards (IFFAM), which will take place between the 8th and 13th of December 2016. Spanning six consecutive days, the event will showcase the best of Asian and international cinema with a programme of film premieres and screenings for both Asian and Western film, red-carpet presentations, industry events, masterclasses and an awards ceremony. A partnership with the British Film Institute (BFI) will see young film makers from Macao making a short film that will premiere during the festival.

Kicking off with a screening of the French film “Polina, danser sa vie”, the International Film Festival and Awards Macao will screen a total of 50 films from over 20 countries, including nine from the UK. For most of the films this will be either their world or Asian premiere, making this not only a highlight of Macao’s cultural calendar but also that of the world.

One of the highlights of the IFFAM will be the competition, with 12 feature films competing for nine awards, including Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Screenplay, and a Macao Audience Choice Award. There are two UK entries – Free Fire (set in 1970s Boston and starring Brie Larson and Cillian Murphy) and Trespass Against Us (a family crime drama starring Michael Fassbender and Brendan Gleeson).

Other festival highlights will include Hidden Dragons (9 films representing the latest trends in contemporary Asian genre cinema), Crossfire (favourite films chosen by 12 East Asian genre film directors) and masterclasses from Hollywood producer Gianni Nunnari and Academy Award-winning writer and producer, Tom McCarthy. In a three-day Industry Hub from 9th to 11th December, film industry professionals from around the globe have been invited to enhance industry interchanges and create new business opportunities.

Reinforcing the festival's global credentials, IFFAM is collaborating with the British Film Institute (BFI) on a six-day project, taking place between 29th November and 4th December 2016. Twelve of Macao's most promising young filmmakers will participate in a week-long course with the BFI, working as part of a film crew led by industry professionals, to make a short film which will premiere during the IFFAM.

Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, Director of Macao Government Tourism Office and Festival Director of the IFFAM says, "This exciting new festival will enrich Macao's cultural appeal and generate world class exchange opportunities. We look forward to welcoming international directors, producers, stars, buyers, distributors and investors to Macao, and to an exciting programme of screenings and events that will raise Macao's profile to a new level."

For further information, please visit <http://iffamacao.com/en/>

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For further media information and images contact:

Cliona Keane

Macao Government Tourism Office – UK & Ireland Representative

E: cliona@humewhitehead.co.uk

T: +44 (0) 845 498 9985

About Macao:

A Special Administrative Region of China since 1999, Macao blends the best of east and west, old and new and is one of Asia's most intriguing destinations. Located just 40 miles from Hong Kong on China's south coast, it offers a world class hotel, restaurant, shopping and entertainment scene, whilst retaining its unique Portuguese-Chinese culture in its UNESCO World Heritage listed architecture, colourful events and fusion cuisine. Chosen as one of Lonely Planet's top 10 regions for travel in 2015, Macao packs a lot into its 11 square miles and makes the perfect addition to a Far East holiday or stopover en route "Down Under".

About the Macao Government Tourism Office:

The Macao Government Tourism Office is the tourism development arm of the government of the Macao SAR (Special Administrative Region) dedicated to promoting Macao as a preferred

destination and co-ordinating related activities and services within the local tourism industry.
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