

Hong Kong cinema highlighted at 39th Hawaii International Film Festival (with photos)

The 39th Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF) is presenting a special Spotlight on Hong Kong. Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, San Francisco (HKETO SF) is the presenting sponsor. The HIFF runs from November 6 to 24 (Hawaii time) in Hawaii, the United States.

Director John Woo, an iconic figure in Hong Kong cinema and a master of action movies, will be presented with the Halekulani Lifetime Achievement Award on November 15. This award is given to an artist in recognition of their longstanding dedication to their craft across a broad body of work.

On November 13, HKETO SF hosted a Hong Kong Reception in Honolulu, in honour of director Woo. A special 30th anniversary screening of Woo's "The Killer" will be held in the Spotlight on Hong Kong series at the Festival.

At the reception, the Director of HKETO SF, Mr Ivanhoe Chang, congratulated Woo on his achievements and thanked the Festival for its appreciation of Hong Kong cinema.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with the Hawaii International Film Festival, which has been very supportive of Hong Kong cinema. I was here last year when the Festival honoured director Wong Kar-wai. This year, in addition to presenting the honour to director John Woo, it has curated a very special Spotlight on Hong Kong.

"Three important Hong Kong movies are featured in this year's Spotlight. In addition to 'The Killer', there are two new films that have gained success, whether at major film festivals or at the box office," Mr Chang said.

Veteran filmmaker Yonfan's "No. 7 Cherry Lane" and Herman Yau's "The White Storm 2 – Drug Lords" are in the lineup. The former won the Award for Best Screenplay at its premiere at the Venice Film Festival, while the latter was selected as the Hong Kong entry for Best International Feature Film at the 2020 Oscars.

The HIFF said it was proud to partner with HKETO SF to look to the past, present and future of Hong Kong cinema, which includes honouring the godfather of Hong Kong action cinema, director John Woo, and hosting a screening of "The Killer" on November 16 with Woo in attendance .

Filmmaking is very important and widely supported in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government spares no effort in promoting film development, which is an essential element of Hong Kong's vibrant creative industries.

