



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
San Francisco, CA - April, 2017
Contact: Laura Paule
info@apiculturalcenter.org,
[415-829-9467]

Special 'CINEMATIC SF' Film Presentations in San Francisco

Four short films about San Francisco's diverse and invaluable residents will be presented San Francisco community venues this May 2017

San Francisco, April 10, 2017 - The **Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center (APICC)** presents their new film project documenting the stories of San Francisco's diverse and invaluable residents - **Cinematic SF**. Featured local filmmakers **R.J. Lozada, Abhi Singh, Kevin Wong, and Jimmy Zhang** will present their documentary shorts reflecting the everyday lives of San Francisco residents not typically seen on-screen. From the struggles of working artists to the daily goings-on of a vital community center, each film paints a unique portrait of the city's underrepresented communities.

The film program will be specially presented at four San Francisco community venues the evenings of **May 10, 11, 18 and 26**, with opportunities to talk with the filmmakers, listen to guest speakers, and witness live performances. Each screening celebrates the talents of local Asian American storytellers, recognizes their subjects' value to San Francisco, and engages with the unique communities featured in each film. Cinematic SF screenings are part of APICC's **20th annual United States of Asian American Festival** in May, spotlighting the creative works of San Francisco's vibrant API arts community and culture.

CINEMATIC SF PRESENTATIONS:

Cinematic SF @ Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts | May 10, 6:30PM

Cinematic SF @ Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts will highlight director Abhi Singh's film "No Vacancy," and San Francisco's essential artist community, slowly being priced out of the city whose culture they help develop.

Cinematic SF @ Bayview Opera House | May 11, 7PM

Cinematic SF @ Bayview Opera House will highlight director Jimmy Zhang's film "The Shoes I Walk In" and the experiences of two San Francisco youth from the Mission and Bayview/Hunters Point, as they recognize the value of the homes and legacies left to them by their grandmothers.

Cinematic SF @ Buriel Clay Theater (AAACC) | May 18, 8PM

Cinematic SF @ Buriel Clay Theater (at the African American Arts & Culture Complex) will highlight directors Kevin Wong and Todd Sills' film "Gayle," whose subject has moved to a Single-Room-Occupancy to pursue her dream of being a jazz singer. Featuring special musical performances with Gayle herself.

Cinematic SF @ Bayanihan Community Center | May 26, 7PM

Cinematic SF @ Bayanihan Community Center will highlight director R.J. Lozada's film "A Space on Sixth and Mission," documenting the daily happenings of a beloved Filipino community center in the South of Market. Lozada will host an interview and oral history of the space with Bernadette Borja-Sy, Executive Director of the Filipino American Development Foundation.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
San Francisco, CA - April, 2017
Contact: Laura Paule
info@apiculturalcenter.org,
[415-829-9467]

FILMMAKER BIOS

R.J. Lozada

R.J. Lozada is an award winning filmmaker who explores and engages multiple diasporas in flux. Lozada has worked in varying capacities from film festival programming, producing documentaries independently and for publications, radio news and feature segments, and photo editorials. Lozada recently obtained his Masters in Fine Arts in Documentary Film and Video from Stanford University, and is currently in post-production for his first feature-length documentary/installation *Passing Grounds*. This piece explores America's legacy of state violence through the sites of death at the hands of law enforcement in 2014.

Abhi Singh

Abhi Singh is a filmmaker based in San Francisco. His most recent work is a series of short films for KQED Arts. 'Bay Area Ballerina', a short film produced, shot and edited by Abhi Singh, featuring Miko Fogarty, was nominated for a 2016 Webby Award.

His work has screened at several international film festivals including Sheffield Doc/Fest (UK), FIPA – Festival International de Programmes Audiovisuels (France), Sehnsüchte International Film Festival (Germany), Big Sky Documentary Film Festival, Sebastapol Documentary Film Festival, Independent Film Festival Boston, and the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles.

Abhi graduated with an MFA from the Documentary Film and Video Program at Stanford University.

Kevin Wong and Todd Sills

Todd Sills and Kevin Wong are award-winning bay area filmmakers whose works have shown in museums and festivals around the world. They are currently collaborating on a project that follows San Francisco's SRO residents as they navigate the economic upheavals of the housing crisis.

Jimmy Zhang

Jimmy is a second generation Chinese-Cambodian from the southeast parts of San Francisco. Queer, soul searching and wandering, he is looking to reveal the intimacy people of color in San Francisco, developing with the places they call home. Outside of filmmaking, Jimmy is a youth worker who is engaged in the healing abilities of storytelling through general counseling and support groups. He works with students from the southeast parts of San Francisco where he is constantly moved by his youths' observations and reflections. He dedicates his film work to inspire community member's connection with home in San Francisco--a relatively recent home for his ancestors. His work and curatorial style is inspired by the ways in which his community can be resilient in the midst of blessing and traumas.

WHAT & WHO

'CINEMATIC SF' Special Presentations

The Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center (APICC) presents short films about San Francisco's diverse and invaluable residents at venues throughout the city this May 2017.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
San Francisco, CA - April, 2017
Contact: Laura Paule
info@apiculturalcenter.org,
[415-829-9467]

WHEN

March 10-26, 2017

WHERE

Various venues, San Francisco

PHOTOS

Digital photos available at:
<https://flic.kr/s/aHskP8muf6>

WEBSITE

www.apiculturalcenter.org/cinematic_sf

PRESS CONTACT

Laura Paule
info@apiculturalcenter.org
[415-829-9467]

ABOUT APICC

The Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center's mission is to support and produce multidisciplinary art reflective of the unique experiences of Asians and Pacific Islanders living in the United States. APICC was founded in 1996 by representatives of five Asian American nonprofit arts groups. Since 1998, the center has promoted the artistic and organizational growth of San Francisco's API arts community by organizing and presenting the annual *United States of Asian America Festival* as well as commissioning contemporary art for and by the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.