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***SCAPE FILM FACILITATION SHORTS MAKE WAVES AT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVALS**

Following the success, this year's edition features a fresh lineup of internationally-acclaimed mentors and a new Documentary genre

SINGAPORE, 26 AUGUST 2021 — Organised by *SCAPE, an organisation that supports the development of Singaporean youths, the second edition of the National Youth Film Awards (NYFA) Film Facilitation Programme (FFP) returns this year following the success of last year's run. NYFA FFP is a nine-month mentorship programme, a holistic end-to-end mentorship initiative that provides a seed funding of \$10,000, where past NYFA nominees and winners are mentored by internationally-renowned filmmakers to produce a short film.

Local short films from FFP 2020 make waves at international film festivals this year

The inaugural 2020 edition celebrates three of the five short films entering top-tier international film festivals, which are all available for rental from The Projector Plus, at [https://theprojector.sg/\\$1](https://theprojector.sg/$1).

Strawberry Cheesecake (2021), a horror short directed by Siyou Tan, was screened at the **74th Locarno Film Festival**, where Singapore previously clinched the Golden Leopard award for *A Land Imagined* in 2018.

Henchmen (2021), directed by Alistair Quak under the mentorship of Mike Wiluan, won the **Special Mention Award** at the **25th Fantasia Film Festival**, which has been described as "a shrine" by Guillermo del Toro and is, according to Quentin Tarantino, "the most important and prestigious genre film festival on this continent".

"I've always wanted to bring [*Henchmen*] to life, but never managed to pull together enough resources to produce it," said Alistair Quak, mentee under the Action genre. "To be able to finally see such an idea brought to life, thanks to *SCAPE and also everyone that was a part of the cast and crew, is really an amazing experience."

Bridget (2021), directed by Li Kayue and Zon Chan, also recently entered the **44th Asian American International Film Festival**.



New season, new mentors

Given last year's success, FFP 2021 is proud to announce an exciting lineup of mentors to guide our next generation of filmmakers and impart valuable advice from their years of experience. The list of mentors for this year is:

- Rafael Manuel, winner of the Silver Bear Jury Prize at the **70th Berlinale International Film Festival** and **George Lucas Award** at the **2020 Short Shorts Film Festival** for his film *Filipiñana* (2020),
- Fran Borgia, producer of *A Yellow Bird* (2016), which was nominated for the **Critics Week Grand Prize** and **Golden Camera** in the prestigious **Cannes Film Festival** in 2016, who also co-producer of *Apprentice* (2016), which screened at the Un Certain Regard section at the Cannes Film Festival in the same year,
- Frank Smith, who has produced for BBC, National Geographic's *Fish Wars* (2016), and more recently, for **HBO Asia's** *The Teenage Psychic* (2017) and **Netflix's first original series in Mandarin**, *Nowhere Man*,
- Siqi Song, director of *Sister* (2018), which was nominated for Best Short Film at the **Oscars** in 2020 and an **Annie Award**, Oscar-equivalent accolade of animation in 2018, and *The Coin* (2019), featured at the **Short Shorts Film Festival** in 2020,
- Bradley Liew, director of *Motel Acacia* (2019), nominated for **Asian Future Best Film Award** at the **Tokyo International Film Festival** in the same year, and was the show-runner of Astro Malaysia's *Doors: A Philippine Horror Anthology* and Cignal Philippines' *Now Streaming Anthology Series*, and
- Tran Thanh Huy, director of *Ròm* (2019) which won the **Best First Feature** at the **24th Fantasia International Film Festival** in 2020.

In addition to the new mentors, this year's edition will also include a Documentary genre presented by Impact Films. This increases the number of film genres from five to six, and will give young, aspiring documentary filmmakers the chance to hone their craft through genre storytelling and narratives.

Over the course of the mentorship programme, mentees can look forward to broadening their horizons on specific genres while having their perspectives challenged through the process. Apart from gaining technical and career advice on filmmaking, they will also be able to expand their



network with the international film community. With six genres and a slew of distinguished mentors this season, NYFA FFP hopes to equip young filmmakers to scale greater heights, push the frontiers of Singapore's film industry and foster a tight-knit community.

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About *SCAPE

*SCAPE Co. Ltd is a non-profit organisation with its mission and vision rooted in support of youth, talent and leadership development. The organisation aims to facilitate youth-oriented programmes and support within various communities of youth interest in Singapore. The youth of today will be inspired and empowered to **DREAM IT AND LIVE IT at *SCAPE!**

*SCAPE exists to serve and support youths to live their dreams and realise their full potentials. As the integrated talent and resource hub for young people in Singapore, *SCAPE offers a holistic network of programmes, communities, partners and facilities for youths to explore, create and strive. No dream is too small, no dream is too big. *SCAPE wants youths to be inspired to come forward and share their interests, share their dreams. Through guidance and facilitation, *SCAPE wants to see their dreams turn into ideas, and ideas into reality. Living their dreams should no longer be a dream at *SCAPE.

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About National Youth Film Awards

Since its inception in 2015, the National Youth Film Awards (NYFA) serves as a community that connects youths with an interest in filmmaking. It aims to be the launching pad for emerging filmmakers into the industry. Through NYFA, our alumni have gone on to earn further accolades on other regional and international film awards & festivals, some of whom have also been commissioned for various video campaigns by corporate and industry partners. Beyond an award platform, NYFA is committed to nurture the aspiration, vision, and creative spirit of our youths.

Together with industry partners and institutes of higher learning, the NYFA programme is designed to spark deeper conversations amongst like-minded individuals and supports artistic works from both aspiring and professional filmmakers. To date, NYFA has supported more than 3,000 youths, and received over 1,800 short films across the Student and Open Youth categories.

