

ACTION ACTOR-DIRECTOR, JACKIE CHAN, TO FEATURE IN APT5

Internationally renowned actor-director Jackie Chan and six other filmmakers will feature in 'The 5th Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art' (APT5), which opens on December 2, 2006.

The Queensland Art Gallery today announced the full list of artists participating in APT5 — the opening exhibition at the new Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA) and refurbished Queensland Art Gallery.

In addition to Jackie Chan, APT5 filmmakers include Beck Cole (Australia, Warrungu/Luritja), Yang Fudong (China), Kumar Shahani (India), Sima Urale (Samoa/New Zealand), Viêt Linh (Vietnam/France) and Apichatpong Weerasethakul (Thailand).

'For the first time, the Gallery's Asia-Pacific Triennial will explore the relationship between art and film — one of the most influential art forms of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries,' Gallery Director Doug Hall said.

'The APT5 cinema programs will be the first in the Gallery of Modern Art's new purpose-built Australian Cinēmathèque.'

The first of its kind in an Australian art museum, the Australian Cinēmathèque's facilities include two cinemas and a dedicated media gallery for screen-related exhibitions.

The work of the seven APT5 filmmakers will be presented in depth in a special opening program and in ongoing film programs throughout the exhibition.

A special display celebrating Jackie Chan as director, action choreographer and actor will be presented in the media gallery.

In addition to showcasing APT5 filmmakers, the Australian Cinēmathèque will present two curated film programs, 'Japan Fantastic: Before and Beyond Anime' and 'Hong Kong, Shanghai: Cinema Cities'.

Mr Hall said the APT5 cinema program had been developed to reflect the diversity and depth of cinema practice in the Asia-Pacific region.

'Chan's iconic films such as *Project A* (1983), *Police Story* (1985) and *New Police Story* (2004) highlight the actor-director's spectacular physical humour, the influence of his training in Chinese opera, and his unique brand of Hong Kong urban action.'

'Also included are the visually rich films of Kumar Shahani, one of India's most important contemporary filmmakers.'

'Films such as *Kasba* (1990) and *The Bamboo Flute* (2000) reflect Shahani's distinctive layered referencing of Indian classical arts, music and literature', he said.

APT5 will also showcase Viêt Linh's beautifully composed films exploring the recent history and changing social conditions of Vietnam.

Yang Fudong's short film *Chenghi zhiguang (City light)* 2000 entwines fantasy and daily interaction in contemporary city living.

Work by Apichatpong Weerasethakul, a leading figure in recent Thai film, includes the Australian premiere of *Syndromes and a Century (Sang Sattawat)* (2006) as well as his Cannes jury awarded *Tropical Malady (Sud Pralad)* (2004).

Weerasethakul's films reference television soap operas and radio serials and explore the boundaries of documentary and fiction.

APT5 will showcase recent films by Indigenous documentary and short fiction director Beck Cole and Samoan-born Sima Urale.

Urale's work *O Tamaiti* (1996), filmed from a child's point of view, explores Samoan family life. It won the Silver Lion for best short film at the Venice International Film Festival (1996).

Wirriya Small Boy (2004) and *The Lore of Love* (2005) by Beck Cole focus on personal relationships and social issues in contemporary Indigenous culture.

A rising Australian talent, Cole is currently working on a series for SBS Television, 'First Australians', with two of Australia's leading Indigenous filmmakers, Ivan Sen and Rachel Perkins.

The first of the curated film programs, 'Japan Fantastic: Before and Beyond Anime', will be presented from January 12 to 28, 2007 and will profile the origins of Japanese animation and the work of contemporary independent animators.

From March 2 to May 27, 2007, 'Hong Kong, Shanghai: Cinema Cities' offers viewers a thematic and chronological journey through the interconnected histories of Hong Kong and Shanghai.

'Hong Kong, Shanghai: Cinema Cities' will be the most important historical retrospective of Chinese film to be seen in Australia. It will be presented midway between the centenary of mainland Chinese cinema in 2005 and of Hong Kong cinema in 2009.

APT5 will continue for six months until May 27, 2007.

For more information, visit www.asiapacifictriennial.com

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To download APT5 images and media kit visit www.asiapacifictriennial.com/mediacentre