

## Press Release

2020/9/24

Talents Tokyo Organizing Committee (TOKYO FILMeX)

### **Announcement: TALENTS TOKYO 2020 participants (Talents) and Experts Announced, 9 projects selected for the “NEXT MASTERS SUPPORT PROGRAM,” an initiative to support the alumni**

During the 6 days of November 2-7, 2020, within the 21st TOKYO FILMeX, the talent development and networking platform “Talents Tokyo 2020” (TT2020) will be conducted under the supervision of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, the Arts Council Tokyo, and the Talents Tokyo Organizing Committee (TOKYO FILMeX), and in cooperation with Berlinale Talents, with support from the Japan Foundation Asia Center.

The theme for this year’s Talents Tokyo is “Reconnecting Together.”

TT2020 brings together 15 upcoming promising filmmakers and producers. In the past years, participants have gathered in Tokyo to take part in the program, but due to the global coronavirus pandemic, this year’s program will be delivered online. Each participant will have an opportunity to present his/her own project online to the world on November 5, 2020.

Talents Tokyo aims to inspire promising filmmakers to develop their voices and become the “Next Masters”.

Previously called “Next Masters Tokyo” in 2010, the filmmaker development project “Talent Campus Tokyo” has been run from 2011 to 2013, and in 2014 the program was reformed as “Talents Tokyo”.

The same year, TT organizers started the “Next Masters Support Program”, a new initiative to support alumni from these events by providing grants from (a) Project Development Fund and (b) International Promotion Fund. And from 2015, another program called (c) Fellowship Program joined in this initiative. This year, we are considering various options under the influence of COVID-19.

Today we announce this year’s selected projects. Talents Tokyo will award a Project Development Fund grants of up to 1 million JPY or an International Promotion Fund grant of up to 500,000 JPY to the selected projects.

#### Outline:

<b>Title:</b>	Talents Tokyo 2020 (TT2020)
<b>Dates :</b>	From Monday, November 2 to Saturday, November 7, 2020 (6 days during the TOKYO FILMeX 2020)
<b>Venue:</b>	Online
<b>Organizers:</b>	Tokyo Metropolitan Government Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture) Talents Tokyo Organizing Committee (TOKYO FILMeX)
<b>Supported by:</b>	The Japan Foundation Asia Center
<b>In Cooperation with:</b>	Berlinale Talents
<b>In Collaboration with:</b>	Goethe Institut Tokyo
<b>Official home page:</b>	<a href="https://talents-tokyo.jp">https://talents-tokyo.jp</a>
<b>Contact E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:talents@talents-tokyo.jp">talents@talents-tokyo.jp</a>



## The List of Main 'Experts' for the Talents Tokyo 2020:



### **PARK Kiyong (Director)**

PARK Kiyong started his film career soon after graduating from the Korean Academy of Film Arts (KAFA) in 1987. Since then, he has worked on various film projects as producer and director. Films he produced include, “To the Starry Island” (PARK Kwang-su, 1993): the first Korean co-production with a European company, Channel Four TV, and “Cinema on the Road” (JANG Sun-woo, 1995): the Korean episode for BFI's “The Century of Cinema” series. In 2000, he also produced “The Jang Sun-woo Variations”: a documentary about a controversial Korean director JANG Sun-Woo by a prominent British film critic Tony RAYNS. His films as a writer and director: “Motel Cactus” (1997) and “Camels(s)” (2001) have won numerous awards including the New Currents Award at the Busan International Film Festival and the Grand Award at the Fribourg International Film Festival. While representing KAFA from 2001 to 2009, he started the "Feature Film & Animation Production Program" which became an enormous success that helped turn the institution into a world-class film school. Films made in this program were shown in many leading international film festivals, won numerous awards, and had successful commercial distributions. Asian Film Academy (AFA), co-presented by KAFA and Busan International Film Festival (BIFF), was another film training program he has initiated and developed with a strong belief, and saw it become a core film training program in Asia. Since 2012, he teaches directing at Dankook University, Korea, and was head of the Graduate School of Cinematic Content between 2018 and 2020.

### **Bianca BALBUENA (Producer)**

Bianca BALBUENA is a Philippine-based producer, writer and CEO of Epicmedia Productions Inc. which has produced over 30 series and feature films most notably Venice Film Festival 2009 Lion of the Future and Orizzonti Best Film “Engkwentro” (2009) by Pepe DIOKNO, Berlinale 2016 Silver Bear "A Lullaby To The Sorrowful Mystery" (2016) by Lav DIAZ and Antoinette JADAONE's local topgrossing and critically acclaimed independent film “That Thing Called Tadhana” (2014). Also a

Talents Tokyo 2012 alumna and currently a mentor at the Locarno Film Festival Open Doors and EAVE's ambassador for Asia, she is also the recipient of the 2018 Busan's Asian Film Commissions (AFC) Network Producer of the Year and the youngest awardee of the Asia Pacific Screen Awards (APSA) FIAPF Award for outstanding contribution to Asia Pacific cinema.

**Sebastien CHESNEAU (World Sales)**

Sebastien CHESNEAU has been working in the film business for over 20 years. He previously worked for France Télévisions Distribution, Celluloid Dreams and Rezo. End of 2014, he launched Cercamon, a world sales company dealing with 8 films a year internationally. Cercamon means World Searcher in Occitan language. The company attends all major markets and festivals. Films include: "The High Sun" (2015) from Dalibor MATANIC (Jury Prize Un Certain Regard, Cannes Film Festival), "The Seen and Unseen" (2017) from Kamila ANDINI (Grand Prize, TOKYO FILMeX), "Pop Aye" (2017) from Kirsten TAN (Official Selection Sundance, VPRO Big Screen Award).

## **The List of Selected 'Talents' for the Talents Tokyo 2020:**

### **Directors:**

LIAO Zihao (CHINA)  
Shae XU (CHINA)  
HAYASHI Shunsaku (JAPAN)  
KITAGAWA Miku (JAPAN)  
Noemie NAKAI (JAPAN)  
CHIA Chee Sum (MALAYSIA)  
Okkar (MYANMAR)  
Hector Barretto CALMA (the PHILIPPINES)  
Nelicia LOW (SINGAPORE)  
WENG Yu-Tong (TAIWAN)  
Puangsoi AKSORNSAWANG (THAILAND)

### **Producers:**

Nick CALPAKDJIAN (AUSTRALIA / INDONESIA)  
Yulia Evina Bhara (INDONESIA)  
Achinette VILLAMOR (the PHILIPPINES)  
Geoderic LOMUNTAD (the PHILIPPINES)

The Selection Committee is formed by FUJIOKA Asako (Board of Directors, Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival), and ICHIYAMA Shozo (Talents Tokyo, Chairperson/ TOKYO FILMeX, Director).

FUKATSU Junko (writer/TOKYO FILMeX Organizing Committee), KANAYA Shigeo (Talents Tokyo/ TOKYO FILMeX), HAYASHI Miyu (Talents Tokyo/ TOKYO FILMeX) participated in the preliminary selection process.

**As of September 24, 2020, this information may be subject to change.**

## **Next Masters Support Program:**

### Selected Projects:

#### a) Project Development Fund

ZHOU Xinyu (2019, CHINA) <*Children*>

Sinung Winahyoko (2019, INDONESIA) <*Lintang*>

SORA Neo (2017, JAPAN) <*Earthquake*>

LAU Kek-Huat (2015, MALAYSIA) <*Were Tiger*>

Alemberg ANG (2014, the PHILIPPINES) <*Some Nights I Feel Like Walking*>

Nicole Midori WOODFORD (2017, SINGAPORE) <*Last Shadow at First Light*>

Ash MAYFAIR (2019, VIETNAM) <*Skin of Youth*>

#### b) International Promotion Found

ZHOU Hao (2018, CHINA) <*Bridled*>

Armi Rae CACANINDIN (2014, the PHILIPPINES) <*Whether the Weather is Fine*>

The Selection Committee is formed by IKEDA Takaaki (Film buyer/ NHK Enterprises, Inc.), and ICHIYAMA Shozo (Talents Tokyo Chairperson/ TOKYO FILMeX, Director).

KANAYA Shigeo (Talents Tokyo/ TOKYO FILMeX), and HAYASHI Miyu (Talents Tokyo/ TOKYO FILMeX) participated in the preliminary selection process.

**As of September 24, 2020, this information may be subject to change**

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