香港國際電影節協會
HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SOCIETY

21st February 2008

For Immediate Release

Real People / Reel Stories

The 32nd Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) announces 2008 Program Lineup

Presented by the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society and proudly supported by Giordano Concepts, the HKIFF announced its 2008 lineup of nearly 300 films from 55 countries at a press conference on 21st February at 1:00pm at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. HKIFF also unveiled its latest promotional reel at the occasion.

Among local films making their World Premiere at HKIFF this year are Ann Hui's *The Way We Are*, Vincent Chui's *Love is Elsewhere*, and one of the two Closing Films, *Coffee or Tea*, co-directed by Shu Kei and Mandrew Kwan Man-hin.

Chairman Wilfred Wong opened the press conference by welcoming the public to another exciting year at the Hong Kong International Film Festival. He voiced his optimism for the territory's steadfast status as the world-class film metropolis in the region and was especially proud of the ever increasing number of local productions receiving international acclaim and recognition.

This year's Filmmaker in Focus, Eric Tsang, contributed to the film festival eight of his earlier works and three brand new productions he executive produced, the *Winds of September* trilogy, three debut films by a trio of young directors from the Chinese Mainland, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. Tsang stepped into the spotlight and was presented with a special gift: a 4-minute tribute consisted of memorable moments from his films, which was edited by director Wong Chin Po and narrated by Peter Chan Ho Sun. He expressed his appreciation for being bestowed the distinguished honor of Filmmaker in Focus by promising to continue to nurture new directors and produce fresh and exciting films for audiences worldwide.

The highlight of the press conference was marked by the appearance of *They Way We Are*'s renowned local director Ann Hui, *Coffee or Tea*'s co-directors Shu Kei and Mandrew Kwan Man-hin, and lead actors Kate Yeung, Ben Hung and Angus Chan Siu-hei, as well as producer Ng Kin-hung and the five lead actors from *Love is Elsewhere*: Chau Pak Ho, Yumiko Cheng Hei Yi, Sherman Chung, Ken Hung Cheuk Lap, and Chelsea Tong So Kei, who took to the stage and shared their experience working on their respective films. Several high-profile international directors are also expected to grace the film festival to present their films in person; they include Russian helmer Sergei Bodrov, whose *Mongol*, a nominee for Best Foreign Language Film at this year's Academy Awards, will make its Asian Premiere at HKIFF, famed British director Peter Greenaway, who will make his first appearance at the film festival with *Nightwatching*, and the Hong Kong-born, Hollywood-based Wayne Wang, whose San Sebastian Film Festival Golden Seashell winner, *A Thousand Years of Good Prayers* and its companion piece, *The Princess of Nebraska*, will both be showcased here.

The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited
香港中環德輔道中 31-37 號中國聯合銀行大廈 7 樓
7/F, United Chinese Bank Building, 31-37 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2970 3300 Fax: (852) 2970 3011 E-mail: info@hkiff.org.hk Website: www.hkiff.org.hk

香港國際電影節協會
HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SOCIETY

In addition to *Mongol*, the 32nd HKIFF will also screen two other current Academy Awards Best Foreign Language Film nominees, namely Stefan Ruzowitzky's *The Counterfeiters* and *Beaufort* by Joseph Cedar.

The booking folder for the 32nd HKIFF is now available. Online and postal bookings will start Saturday, 23 February while box office opens on 6 March at all URBTIX outlets. Last year, ticket sales soared by an impressive 20 percent from the year before as the festival extended its run from 16 to 23 days. Held from 17 March to 6 April, 2008, the film festival opens alongside sister events, the star-studded Asian Film Awards (AFA), which will celebrate excellence in Asian cinema in its second edition at the Grand Hall of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on the 17th, and the Hong Kong Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF), the most important film financing platform in Asia, which runs from 17 to 19 March.

For more information on the 32nd Hong Kong International Film Festival, please visit www.hkiff.org.hk

To download the above Press Release and film stills, please go to the following FTP:
ftp://ftp1@hkiff.org.hk
login: ftp1 password: ftp1357

For press enquiry, please contact the following:

Yvonne Chui
Account Manager
Perfect Advertising & Production Co., Ltd.
Tel: (852) 2401-4134
Email: yvonne.chui@intercontinental.com.hk

Ms. Maggie Ip
Marketing & PR Executive
HKIFFS
Tel: (852) 2102 7365
FAX: (852) 2970 3011
Email: maggie_ip@hkiff.org.hk