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18 > 30 OCT. '18

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# ARTISTS FUEL THE PASSION OF A SOLID ALLIANCE BETWEEN TWO CONTINENTS

On October 18 and 19 Brussels will host the 12<sup>th</sup> Summit of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM 12). On that occasion the Centre for Fine Arts (BOZAR) will highlight the creativity of European and Asian artists during the ASEM Cultural Festival. Arts and culture will fuel the passion of solid alliance between the two continents.

In times of global changes, cooperation and mutual understanding between Europe and Asia is more important than ever. The 53 partners of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) represent more than 60 percent of the world's population and 65 percent of the economic activity. But these ties are not only political or economic; they are also cultural. For centuries artists have fuelled a passion that has progressively forged and nurtured alliances between our two continents.

In October 2018, the ASEM Cultural Festival 'Europe meets Asia, Asia meets Europe' will highlight two crucial themes: digital creativity and cultural heritage. The Festival will show that intercultural exchange, vision and creativity of artists can broaden our perspective on the past and the future.

As a leading European house for culture driven by an ambitious international mission, the Centre for Fine Arts-Brussels (BOZAR) warmly welcomes the ASEM cultural Festival.

Through its commitment to artistic excellence and a constant need to adapt itself to an ever-changing world, this European house for culture engages with the 21st century by opening up new critical imaginaries, building bridges between communities through permanent intercultural exchanges and debates, offering new perspectives that challenge existing narratives.

The two-week festival will offer a diverse range of programming from Asia & Europe including performances, exhibitions and conversations.

An opening event featuring a specially commissioned digital and music performance under the artistic direction of renowned Belgian visual artist, Honoré d'O will be held on 18 October 2018. A public forum on 22 October 2018 will bring together two leading architects from Asia & Europe for a conversation on the topic of architecture and heritage. Over two weeks, an eclectic mix of music, dance and theatre performances, visual and photography exhibitions and film screenings will be presented.

BOZAR was the natural partner to collaborate with ASEM and all its Asian and European countries and bring their creativity together.

Let this festival be an opportunity to celebrate these historical connections, and welcome the prospects for future cooperation.

## OPENING EVENT

## SINGING MASKS



Honoré d'O



Sun\*Sun\*Sun String Orchestra

**ARTIST:** HONORÉ D'O, SUN\*SUN\*SUN  
STRING ORCHESTRA, NADLADA  
THAMTANAKOM, SOPRANO, LIU FANG, PIPA  
**COUNTRY:** BELGIUM

**LOCATION:** HORTA HALL  
18.10 - 19:00  
DIGITAL-MUSICAL INSTALLATION

Since 1990 the artist Honoré d'O (1961 Oudenaarde, Belgium) has been exploring a multidimensional and innovative language in the form of organically built installations that always fit in their surrounding architecture. His ephemeral work invites the viewer to make a mental walk, next to the literal one, and to define a route throughout his compositions towards the wonder of the real.

After many travels to and exhibitions in China, Japan and Korea the artist understood that the similarities between Asia and Europe are sometimes less outspoken as one may think. Different societal and cultural codes are built on similar concerns for our habitat and life in general.

With his new installation, according to the architecture of the Horta Hall, Honoré d'O questions the legitimate and imaginary borders between East and West by breaking with each frame of references that we use to define our position and relationship towards the other and the whole. Therefore he shapes a new world that transcends these borders between East and West, South and North and embraces the Universe and every molecule in its entirety.

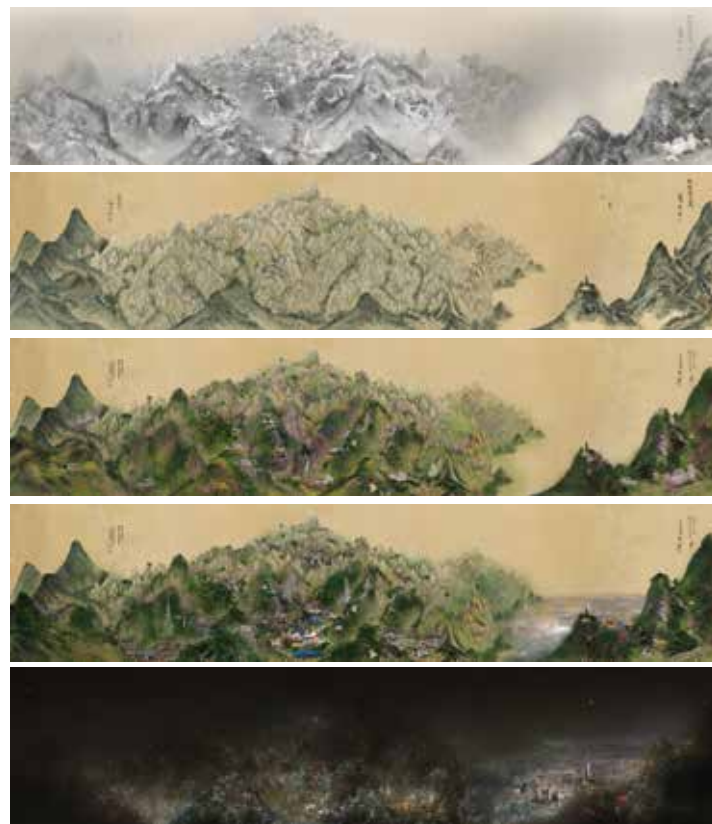
*L'Etat Iconoclastique des Choses* uses the symbol of the mask as Leitmotiv. Masks are universal ready-mades referring to the complex identity each individual is made of. They deal with notions of collectivism and individualism, health, danger and protection, the invisible left or right. They are at the same time thesis and antithesis, dialogue and monologue. Masks appear in every aspect of everybody's life. The permanent flux of images and sound in the installation is a subtle reminder of the fragility of things and a refined criticism on the power of perception, that still clings too much to the material object, noise in the artist's search for a more comfortable humanity.



## EXHIBITIONS



## A PATH TO PEACE



Lee Lee-Nam

**ARTIST:** LEE LEE-NAM

**COUNTRY:** KOREA

**LOCATION:** HORTA HALL

18.10 > 18.11.18

VIDEO INSTALLATION

With the support of the Korean Cultural Centre Brussels.

In the video installation *A Path to Peace*, Lee Lee-Nam (b. 1969) gives us his personal interpretation of a painting by Gyeongjae Jeong Seon (1676-1759), who was one of the leading lights in the landscape painting movement known as “true view” and whose works are considered to be the most representative of Korean cultural heritage. Lee Lee-Nam reinterprets Gyeongjae Jeong Seon with the aid of digital technologies by linking two mountains that are some distance from one another.

The Kumgang Mountains, painted by Jeong Seon, are located on the North of the border between the two Koreas. By digitising the classical pictorial style and using symbolic representations common to both North and South Korea – the four seasons, cultural and architectural heritage –, Lee Lee-Nam puts forward the possibility of uniting the two countries in peace.

10 11

## CHINA AND EUROPE STORY: CITY, PEOPLE AND CULTURE



Hui Zhao

**ARTIST:** HUI ZHAO

**COUNTRY:** CHINA

**LOCATION:** DÉGAGEMENT HENRY LE BOEUF  
18.10 > 30.10.18

PHOTO EXHIBITION

With the support of the Mission  
of the People's Republic of China  
to the European Union

Photographer Hui Zhao is the driving force behind "China Story". For that project, commissioned by the Chinese government, he travelled through the 'Middle Kingdom' and recorded its beauty for posterity. The project has been shown in forty countries around the world and so far consists of twenty series about Chinese culture, its countryside and people. He is currently working on two new chapters for the German and Italian embassies in China, namely "German Story" and "Italian Story".

Zhao is the only Asian photographer to be invited by Nikon to become one of its prestigious Grand Total Top Ten Global Photographers. Apart from his work for Chinese governmental bodies, he also takes commissions from major international businesses. He has been invited to present solo exhibitions in the EU headquarters in Brussels four times.

## ROSTROS-MUKHA-FACES AT A CROSSROAD



Faces At A Crossroad

**ARTIST:** MIGUEL ÁNGEL BELINCHÓN - BUJES (A.K.A. BELIN), WESLEY VALENZUELA

**COUNTRY:** PHILIPPINES, SPAIN

**LOCATION:** RAVENSTEIN GALLERY

18.10 > 30.10.18

MURAL

With the support of the Embassy  
of Spain to the Kingdom of Belgiu

Street art belongs to the public domain, surely? Street artists from two continents are creating a mural in the Ravenstein Gallery, between the Centre for Fine Arts and the Central Station. They are joining forces on the theme of 'faces': an unfamiliar face is always the portal we have to pass through in order to make contact with a different culture.

The Spanish painter and sculptor Miguel Ángel Belinchón Bujes (a.k.a. Belin) is one of the most important European graffiti artists. He has even designed brand-new colours for a paint manufacturer, who then added them to their commercial range. The Filipino artist and designer Wesley Valenzuela uses a mixed technique in his graphic depictions of modern urban life, effervescent and brutal in equal measures.



A CONVERSATION WITH PAUL  
ROBBRECHT AND WANG SHU

Wang Shu



Paul Robbrecht

**ARCHITECTS:** WANG SHU, PAUL ROBBRECHT

**COUNTRY:** CHINA, BELGIUM

**WITH:** WINNERS AND SHORTLISTED GRADUATES OF THE YOUNG TALENT ARCHITECTURE AWARD FROM BOTH EUROPE AND ASIA.

**LOCATION:** HALL M

22.10 - 19:00

PUBLIC CONVERSATION

**MODERATED BY:** VÉRONIQUE PATTEEUW

As part of the ASEM Cultural Festival programme, BOZAR will host a conversation between two leading architects of Asia and Europe: the 2012 Pritzker Prize Winner Wang Shu of the Chinese firm Amateur Architecture Studio and the Belgian architect Paul Robbrecht from Robbrecht en Daem architecten.

The exchange of ideas will focus on the significance and on the role of cultural legacy in their respective architectural work and will surface convergencies and differences in the way European and Asian architects and designers deal with the topic of heritage in their contemporary projects. The Belgian professor and editor Véronique Patteeuw will moderate this discussion.

The conversation will be preceded by a presentation of student projects of shortlisted graduates of the Young Talent Architecture Award from China, Korea and Europe.

A worldwide student award which is part of the prestigious European Prize for Contemporary Architecture of the Mies van der Rohe Foundation.



### “LES SALONS DE MUSIQUE”

Following the examples of the musical salons organised throughout Asia and Europe, the concerts will be presented in the new “Salon Europa” which is located in the heart of the Centre for Fine Arts. This will be a unique opportunity to discover exceptional musicians in an intimate setting allowing an immersed listening experience and encouraging a privileged relationship between the artists and the audience.

### ARIUNBAATAR GANBAATAR



Ariunbaatar Ganbaatar

**ARTISTS:** ARIUNBAATAR GANBAATAR, BARITONE & DARIMA LINKHOVOIN, PIANO

**COUNTRY:** MONGOLIA

**REPERTOIRE:** P.I. Tchaikovsky, S. Rachmaninoff, traditional Mongolian songs

**LOCATION:** SALON EUROPA

19.10 - 20:30

VOCALS

With the support of the Embassy of Mongolia in Belgium

One thing leads to another. Ariunbaatar Ganbaatar comes from a nomad family and sang Mongolian folk songs as a child. At the age of seventeen he got into university and took his first singing lessons. Unfortunately, the money didn't last and, two years later, he had no choice but to become a traffic policeman. He didn't stop singing, though, and while soloing with a police choir at a concert in Siberia, his deep baritone made an impression on members of the Buryat State Theatre who promptly recruited him.

Things happened quickly after that. He took part in a range of international competitions and won, among others, the first prize in the prestigious Tchaikovsky contest. Since then he has performed at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, the Mariinsky in Saint Petersburg, Carnegie Hall in New York and Buckingham Palace in London. Music crosses all borders! In 2017, Ariunbaatar was awarded the Song Prize at the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World Competition.

Darima Linkhvoïn is the Artistic Director of the Opera at the Opera and Ballet Theater of the Republic of Buryatia. As voice teacher, she has trained many vocalists of international stature including Ariunbaatar Ganbaatar.

## SVETLANA BEREZHNYAYA



Svetlana Berezhnaya

**ARTIST:** SVETLANA BEREZHNYAYA

**COUNTRY:** RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**REPERTOIRE:** 1. P.I. TCHAIKOVSKY CHILDREN'S ALBUM & 2. P.I. TCHAIKOVSKY THE SEASONS, CYCLE OF 12 PLAYS / PIANO

**LOCATION:** SALON EUROPA

21.10 - 17:00

With the support of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the European Union.

With her flamboyant playing style, Svetlana Berezhnaya has made an impression around the world. At the present time, she is the director and organist with the State Philharmonic of Mineralnye Vody, in the Caucasus. The region has long formed the natural and symbolic border between Asia and Europe.

Svetlana studied piano in Moscow and Kazan before studying the organ at the Brabants Conservatorium in Tilburg, the Netherlands. She is a laureate of various competitions and regularly performs throughout Russia, Europe, North America and Asia. One highlight of her extensive discography is the CD she recorded in 2013 in the famous Notre-Dame de Paris, marking the occasion of the cathedral's 850th anniversary.

## KATCHRY JEWEL GOLBIN WITH MICHAEL LAO CU AND MIGUEL NICOLAS "MIKKO" LEE PABLO



Katchry Jewel

**ARTISTS:** KATCHRY JEWEL GOLBIN (VOICE), MICHAEL LAO CU (PIANO) AND MIGUEL NICOLAS "MIKKO" LEE PABLO (CELLO)

**COUNTRY:** PHILIPPINES

**REPERTOIRE:** EUROPEAN AND FILIPINO POPULAR MUSIC / VOCALS

**LOCATION:** SALON EUROPA

23.10 - 19:00

With the support of the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines.

Katchry Jewel Golbin is the living proof that dreams can become reality. The Filipino artist was born blind 26 years ago, and she has been singing from an early age. She became captivated by Edith Piaf and taught herself French using a computer program and Facebook.

When a clip of her singing Mariah Carey's *I'll Be There* went viral, she was well and truly on her way.

Under her pseudonym Aliënette Coldfire, she took part in the French talent search *La France a un incroyable talent*. She rendered everyone speechless with her touching interpretation of a song from the popular musical *Les Misérables*. Since then she has regularly performed a mixed French and Filipino repertoire. On this occasion, she is accompanied by two promising Filipino musicians: pianist Michael Lao Cu and cellist Miguel Nicolas Lee Pablo (a.k.a. Mikko).

## MELODIES FROM KAZAKHSTAN AND PAKISTAN



Erlan Ryskali

**ARTIST:** ERLAN RYSKALI (VOICE AND DOMBURA)

**COUNTRY:** KAZAKHSTAN

**ARTISTS:** ARNAUD EURIN (SITAR), CARLO STRAZZANTE (PERCUSSION)

**COUNTRY:** FRANCE, BELGIUM

**REPERTOIRE:** TRADITIONAL PAKISTANI AND KAZAKH MUSIC

**LOCATION:** SALON EUROPA

24.10 - 19:00

With the support of the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Embassy of Islamic Republic of Pakistan



Arnaud Eurin

Yerlan Ryskali, from Kazakhstan in Central Asia, sings traditional songs from his country while accompanying himself on the dombra, a long-necked lute.

Arnaud Eurin is a French sitar player. As a child he became fascinated by the instrument after seeing the virtuoso Ravi Shankar at work during the Bangladesh benefit concert. From then on, he has immersed himself in Hindustani music in India and studied under traditional masters.

The Sicilian-Belgian percussionist Carlo Strazzante concentrated first on western music before falling under the spell of the classical music traditions of other regions. He can play an array of instruments from the Indian subcontinent, the Middle East and North Africa, but is particularly proficient on the tabla. Together, Eurin and Strazzante will perform a set of music from Pakistan.



## KIJOTE KATHAKALI



Kijote Kathakali

**ARTISTS:** MARGI KATHAKALI COMPANY

THEATRE DANCE

**COUNTRY:** INDIA, SPAIN

With the support of the Embassy

**LOCATION:** HALL M

of the Kingdom of Spain and the

20.10 - 20:30

Embassy of the Republic of India

This initiative combines two different literary and theatrical cultures, two different ways of understanding art, theatre and imagination by staging a different version of El Quixote. It is performed in one of the most mysterious, richest and classical theatre traditions of the world, namely Kathakali theatre from southern India. The rich visual ritual and dramatic art is blended with the imaginary world of El Quixote, both of them bound in time (both originated in the 17th century) and fed by their own mythological and legendary traditions (knights-errant, heroes, and Ramayana and Mahabharata gods respectively). The universal story of the ingenious gentleman and his squire is reimagined for the 21st century. This surprising play makes us see our own culture from the other's perspective in an encounter which questions the ethereal limits of a culture.

This play will be performed by the Margi Kathakali Company performers and musicians from Trivandrum, southern India, which is one of India's most prestigious companies and schools of Kathakali classic theatre.

This innovative production, which is the result of multiple dialogues between tradition and contemporaneity and between two cultures, i.e., India and Spain, is presented in the margin of the commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the death of Cervantes in 2016 and to celebrate the Year of India in Spain.



## MEET THE MILLENNIALS: CONNECTING A CREATIVE GENERATION IN EAST AND WEST



Lucas de Man

**ARTISTS:** LUCAS DE MAN

25.10 - 20:30

**COUNTRY:** THE NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM

LECTURE PERFORMANCE

**LOCATION:** STUDIO

In the theatrical lecture performance *Meet the Millennials*, creator Lucas De Man (NL/BE) takes you on a fascinating trip. During the performance you meet a contemporary generation of hope in Seoul, Singapore, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Shenzhen. The dedicated millennials, of both Europe and Asia, share the futuristic challenges of a rapidly changing and sometimes terrifying world.

Europe and Asia may know cultural differences, mostly we share common ground as we try to live the good life. How do we deal with progressive ideas on love and sex, while committing to traditional community values? And how do we face the future that keeps on closing in as robotics take over daily life? The performance play is a combination of film footage, documentary, manga animations, storytelling and the most unlikely encounters with artists, scientists, social activists, students and professors.

*Meet the Millennials* inspires. It connects stories of daily life, work, education, artificial intelligence, emancipation and individual happiness in megacities. Lucas De Man shows the mind blowing effects of radical, fast forward thinking change. It is the story of a taboo breaking generation in East and West.

Lucas De Man is a creator, concept developer, presenter, guest chairman, playwright and director. He is the founder and artistic director of Stichting Nieuwe Helden and presenter of the AvroTros programme Kunstuur. He also gives lectures and makes appearances as a host, presenter and guest chairman.

## I AM A DEMON



Pichet Klunchun

**ARTIST:** PICHET KLUNCHUN

29.10 - 20.30

**COUNTRY:** THAILAND

DANCE

**LOCATION:** STUDIO

Since he was 16 years old, Pichet Klunchun has studied Khon, a traditional Thai mask dance, under Chaiyot Khummanee, one of the big names of the genre. Today he's a choreographer and dancer with a worldwide reputation. Pichet created this show in 2005 in homage to his mentor, who had died 3 years before. It deals with the intergenerational transmission of the art of the Khon dance and the relationship between master and disciple in daily life, following up on a question the artist asked himself: "What should you do to perfectly embody the character of a demon?" The young man devotes himself to a real exercise in the deconstruction of the syntax of the Khon dance, approaching the technique step by step, followed by the emotions of a demon.

*I am a demon* is the outcome, dazzling with colours, sensuality and life.

Pichet Klunchun studied Traditional Thai Dance at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and subsequently worked as a dancer and choreographer before being invited to participate in most major events in this field. After a few years he took his first steps in the world of contemporary dance. In his home country he is universally acclaimed for his efforts in bringing together Khon and contemporary dance.



Jean-Philippe Toussaint

**ARTIST:** JEAN-PHILIPPE TOUSSAINT,  
WRITER

**COUNTRY:** BELGIUM

**LOCATION:** STUDIO

**INTERVIEW:** BENOÏT PEETERS

23.10 - 20:00

Zadie Smith described the novels of Jean-Philippe Toussaint as “the reason why it is worth continuing to read fiction”. Words that say a great deal about the reputation of this Belgian writer who is well read and acclaimed all over the world.

On 23 October BOZAR is inviting him to give a talk with French screenwriter and filmmaker Benoît Peeters. Together they will be discussing Asia, a continent that has played a major role in Toussaint’s work since his 2002 novel *Faire l’amour*. His latest novel has the evocative title *Made in China* (2017) which is where most of the action takes place.

His books have been translated into over 20 languages and have won the Prix Médicis (2005) and the Prix Décembre (2009). Toussaint is also a filmmaker and photographer whose work has been exhibited in Brussels, Paris and Japan.





## “SENSES” – RYUSUKE HAMAGUCHI



“Senses” - Ryusuke Hamaguchi

**DIRECTOR:** RYUSUKE HAMAGUCHI**LOCATION:** STUDIO**COUNTRY:** JAPAN

22.10 – 20:00 &amp; 28.10 – 11:00

Filmmaker Ryusuke Hamaguchi’s film “Happy Hour” is a critical portrait of Japanese society, divided into five sections.

Kobé, Japan. Jun, Akari, Sakurako and Fumi believe they can confide completely in one another, but one evening, at a party, Jun admits that she has filed for a divorce from her husband. This announcement seems to disturb the other three. They follow the divorce proceedings and her effort to win the case as she confronts her husband. In an attempt at reconciliation and to repair any lingering sense of bitterness, the friends decide to go on holiday together to the Arima hot spring retreat where Jun goes missing. Her disappearance marks the beginning of a series of unforeseen events in the lives of those who remain.

*Senses is a genuine marvel, a choral fresco of astounding beauty and depth, painting sublime portraits of women in their everyday lives and through them the landscape of a specific contemporary disaffection. (Le Monde).*



## TAKARA, LA NUIT OÙ J'AI NAGÉ - KOHEI IGARASHI & DAMIEN MANIVEL



**ARTISTS:** DAMIEN MANIVEL & KOHEI IGARASHI

**COUNTRY:** JAPAN , FRANCE

**LOCATION:** STUDIO

28.10 - 11:00

"The Night I Swam" - Damien Manivel & Kohei

Snow covered mountains in Japan. Every night, a fisherman makes his way to the market in town. His six-year-old son is awoken by his departure and finds it impossible to go back to sleep. In the sleeping household, the young boy draws a picture that he then slips into his satchel. On his way to school, still drowsy, he strays off the path and wanders into the snow...

*"For his third feature, young French filmmaker Damien Manivel (Le parc) has chosen to team up with Japan's Kohei Igarashi on directing duties. Written by the pair of directors, the story is set in the snow-covered mountains in Japan. Manivel & Igarashi: 'We have attempted to narrate this complex feeling of love and distance through Takara's footsteps.'" (Cineuropa)*

## MORIYAMA-SAN: ILA BÉKA & LOUISE LEMOINE



**DIRECTORS:** ILA BÉKA & LOUISE LEMOINE

**COUNTRY:** FRANCE

**LOCATION:** STUDIO

28.10 - 18:00

"Moriyama-San": Ila Béka & Louise Lemoine

A week in the extraordinary-ordinary life of Mr. Moriyama, an enlightened Japanese amateur of art, architecture and music, who lives in one of the most famous creations of contemporary Japanese architecture, the Moriyama house, built in Tokyo in 2005 by Pritzker-prize winner Ryue Nishizawa (SANAA). Introduced into the intimacy of this experimental microcosm which redefines completely the common sense of domestic

life, Ila Béka recounts in a very spontaneous and personal way the unique personality of the owner: an urban hermit living in a small archipelago of peace and contemplation in the heart of Tokyo. From noise music to experimental movies, the film lets us enter into the ramifications of Mr. Moriyama's free spirit.

## KAILI BLUES - BI GAN



"Kaili Blues" - Bi Gan

**ARTIST:** BI GAN

**COUNTRY:** PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

**LOCATION:** STUDIO

30.10 - 20:00

In a small clinic in the foggy and damp city of Kaili in exotic, subtropical Guizhou Province, two preoccupied doctors live ghost-like lives. One of them, Chen Sheng, decides to fulfill his dead mother's wish and sets off on a train journey to look for his brother's abandoned child. His partner in the clinic, a lonely old lady, asks Chen to take an old photograph, a shirt and a cassette to her old sweetheart, who is now very ill. On his way to Zhenyuan County, Chen passes a strange little town called Dangmai, where time is not linear and people's lives complement each other. Here, Chen experiences the past, present and future and begins to reflect upon his life. When Chen eventually reaches Zhenyuan, he only watches his brother's abandoned child with a pair of binoculars from a distance. He gives the old lady's keepsake to her former sweetheart's son and then gets back on the train to complete his return journey. It is difficult to tell whether this world is a product of our memory, or whether we are simply a daydream of this world...

*Time plays in an endless loop in "Kaili Blues," forcing audiences to constantly revisit, and reassess, the past. For a rural Chinese doctor, facing bygone traumas is both a literal and figurative, fugue-enshrouded act, and one that's recounted by debut writer-director Bi Gan with trance-like grace, as his film segues seamlessly between reality and memory. An entrancing off-kilter trip through both internal and exterior landscapes where the old is being torn down in favor of the new, this import heralds an assured new cinematic voice, even if its oblique nature portends meager domestic theatrical prospects. (Variety)*

# THANKS TO

CO-PRODUCTION: ASEM CULTURAL FESTIVAL

IN THE CONTEXT OF: 12TH ASEM SUMMIT (ASEM12)

WITH THE SUPPORT OF: EUROPEAN UNION, ASIA-EUROPE FOUNDATION (ASEF), 2018

EUROPEAN YEAR OF CULTURAL HERITAGE



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