

**NEWS & EVENTS** > Cambodian film wins Rotterdam Film Festival  
NETPAC Award

POSTED ON  
06 FEB 2019

## Cambodian film wins Rotterdam Film Festival NETPAC Award



The International Film Festival Rotterdam 2019 (IFFR) awarded the NETPAC Award for Best Asian Film to '**Last Night I Saw You Smiling**' by the Cambodian filmmaker Kavich Neang. The jury called this documentary about the inhabitants and last days of the White Building, an iconic site in Phnom Penh scheduled for demolition: "a brave attempt at revealing the collapse of a society undergoing drastic transformation."

"You'd think a house is nothing but walls, windows and roof. But now we have to leave, it's breaking my heart." Filmmaker Kavich Neang's father is one of the hundreds of residents who must leave the iconic White Building in Phnom Penh. This apartment block saw the rise and fall of the Khmer Rouge and then housed a lively artistic community. Now the once radiant walls are grey and damaged. Demolition looms.

Neang, who was born here, once dreamed of shooting a fiction film here, but reality overtook his plan. It's now the location for his first full-length documentary. In calm, fixed shots, he registers the activities, worries and emotional moments of his parents and other residents who have to leave. It's reminiscent of the evacuation under Pol Pot, one woman remembers. "But now we have removal trucks." A singer sings a song in her empty room. When the demolition men come, this beautiful world is just a memory.

Read more about [IFFR Awards](#)

Read more from Southeast Asia Globe about Cambodia's new generation of filmmakers: [Cambodia / filmmakers are daring to reinvent the industry](#)

*Last Night I Saw You Smiling* - Winner NETPAC Award, IFFR 2019.

---

## SIMILAR CONTENT

POSTED ON  
22 AUG 2013

Cambodian cinema heritage guardian Rithy Panh  
wins 'Asian Filmmaker of the Year Award'



NEWS  
ASIA CAMBODIA KOREA

BY MAGALI AN BERTHON  
16 JUN 2014

## Lisa Mam | Connecting the dots



### FEATURES

FROM - TO

28 JUN 2013 - 15 SEP 2013

## Stuttgart | Phnom Penh contemporary art and urban change exhibition



### EVENTS

CAMBODIA GERMANY

FROM - TO

04 DEC 2020 - 10 DEC 2020

## Luang Prabang Film Festival LPFF 2020



## EVENTS

ASIA LAO PDR LUXEMBOURG

POSTED ON  
06 FEB 2012

### IFFR Rotterdam 2012 winners announced

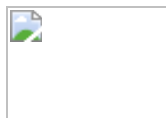


## NEWS

ASIA EUROPE NETHERLANDS

BY JÉRÉMY SEGAY  
03 OCT 2005

### An Audiovisual Resource Centre to open in Cambodia



## COUNTRIES

ASIA CAMBODIA NETHERLANDS

THEME  
CAMBODIA  
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

DISCIPLINES  
FESTIVALS FILM

## ABOUT ASEF CULTURE360

**culture360.asef.org** brings Asia and Europe closer by providing information, facilitating dialogue and stimulating reflection on the arts and culture of the two regions.

**MORE ABOUT ASEF CULTURE360 | FAQ |**   

This website was created and maintained with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.



About us  
Team  
Partners  
FAQ  
Brand guidelines  
How to partner with us  
Contact us  
#ASEFCulture