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# A Letter From KIM Ki-duk

An actress almost got in a fatal accident during the filming of <Pre><Pre>

While filming a scene of committing suicide, the actress was left hanging in the air with no one able to do anything. Luckily, we had left a 50 cm ladder below for just in case.

If I didn't quickly jump on that ladder and untie the rope...
I totally lost it for a while and cried without anyone knowing.
That moment which I never want to recall, made me look back on the 15 films I frantically made during my 13 year film career.

Films...

During the time of beautiful yet cruel, tantalizing yet intense, and sad yet sweet cinematic imagination at work, I didn't care for my life at all.

While I drew out the tumultuous stories of the world in an even stronger, more painful, more heartbreaking, and more heartless ways, all the emotions eventually infected me like a virus.

I became the saddest human being in the world gone over the wall, deluded that I am manipulating the world.

At that moment...

I couldn't do anything.

My films were made by my inferiority complexes.

Arirang...

Over the Arirang Hills, send me...

Arirang...

Going up, going down...

Being sad, being overjoyed...

Being hurt, being happy..

Doing this, doing that...

All the emotions we feel in life...

The countless people I've met while making films...

Human relationships that come together as if forever only to rip apart like tissue paper...

The cruel wounds I inflicted and received to those that left me so...

All of us entangled by love, passion, hate, and the urge to kill...

To me, all this is 'Arirang'.

Kim Ki-duk...

I have no regrets spending my life on films, but still I cannot live without films.

I want to walk side by side in life with films.

Arirang...

Kim Ki-duk, April, 2011.

## **Director's statement - About ARIRANG**

<Arirang> is

about Kim Ki-duk

playing 3 roles in 1.

Through <Arirang> I climb over one hill in life.

Through <Arirang> I understand human beings, thank the nature, and accept my life as it is now.

We are now...

in the terrestrial world lurking with desires, in the ghostly world lurking with sorrow, in the imaginary world lurking with dreams, with no beginning nor end, slowly going crazy.

What is affection that it still remains all around me decaying? It's still stuck to the crown of my head, testing my emotions. It's still hiding deep within my heart, testing my sense of compassion.

If I didn't give my heart, they would be bad people erased from memories,

but if I gave my heart, I couldn't let them go till the day that I die as despicable people.

Ah...

Arirang

Alright

Let's mercilessly kill each other in our hearts till we die.

Even today

I hold back as I get angry.

I laugh as I get jealous.

I love as I despise.

And forgive as I quiver with the urge to kill.

Wait,

I will kill

Myself, who remembers you.

## **Director**



## KIM Ki-duk

### Biography

Born in 1960. After studying art in Paris, KIM Ki-duk returned to Korea and began his career as a screenwriter. He made his directorial debut with a low-budget movie, CROCODILE, in 1996. Since then, KIM Ki-duk has been hailed by both critics and audiences for his hard-to-express characters, shocking visuals, and unprecedented messages. He continued on making internationally acclaimed films such as SAMARITAN GIRL which won the Silver Bear Award (Best Director Award) at the 54th Berlin Int'l Film Festival along with 3-IRON which won the Leone d'Argento Award (Special Award for Best Direction) at the 61st Venice Film Festival.

### **Filmography**

2008 DREAM

-The 56th San Sebastian International Film Festival - Competition

2007 BREATH

-The 60th Cannes Film Festival - Competition

2006 TIME

-The 41st Karlovy Vary Int'l Film Festival - Opening Film

**2005 THE BOW** 

-The 58th Cannes Film Festival - Opening Film for

Un Certain Regard Section

2004 3-IRON

-The 61st Venice Film Festival

4 Award including Leone d'Argento Award (Special Award for Best Direction) -FIPRESCI Best Film of the Year

**2004 SAMARITAN GIRL** 

-The 54th Berlin Int'l Film Festival

Silver Bear Award (Best Director Award)

2003 SPRING, SUMMER, FALL, WINTER... AND SPRING

-The 56th Locarno Int'l Film Festival
Junior Jury Prize, Don Quixote Prize, CICAE / ARTE PRIZE, NETPAC Award

2002 THE COAST GUARD

-The 7th Pusan Int'l Film Festival - Opening Film

-The 38th Karlovy Vary Int'l Film Festival - Official Competition

2002 BAD GUY

FESTIVAL DE CANNES

COMPETITION

-The 52nd Berlin Int'l Film Festival - Competition

2001 ADDRESS UNKNOWN

-The 58th Venice Film Festival - Competition

2000 REAL FICTION

-The 26th Moscow Int'l Film Festival - Competition

2000 THE ISLE

-The 57th Venice Film Festival - Competition

1998 BIRDCAGE INN

- The 49th Berlin Int'l Film Festival

1997 WILD ANIMALS

-The 17th Vancouver Int'l Film Festival

1996 CROCODILE



#### **FINECUT**

FINECUT is a film company specialized in international sales and marketing, production, financing and acquisition of high-end films. FINECUT was set up in 2008 by Youngjoo SUH who was the founder and backbone of making Cineclick Asia as one of the leading film companies in the Asia's creative industries successfully representing numerous films since year 2000. Over the years, SUH has represented many of the best known Korean films such as LEE Chang-dong's OASIS, PARK Chan-wook's OLD BOY, KIM Ki-duk's 7 titles including SAMARITAN GIRL, 3-IRON, SPRING, SUMMER, FALL, WINTER, AND SPRING, and BONG Joon-ho's THE HOST.

She has also represented not only Korean films but also a wide variety of international films such as TUYA'S MARRIAGE(China) winner of Golden Bear Award in Berlin Int'l Film Festival, OPIUM WAR(Afghanistan) winner of Golden Marc'Aurelio Critics Award in Rome Int'l Film Festival, Cannes Film Festival official competition title LION'S DEN(Argentina) and CARANCHO(Argentina) which was invited to Un Certain Regard in Cannes Film Festival. SUH's producing credits include films such as 3-IRON. BREATH. OPIUM WAR and LION'S DEN, and CARANCHO.

After its launch, FINECUT has been actively representing many successful titles. The Korean film THE CHASER was invited to the official selection of the 61st Cannes Film Festival and SUH's producing co-production title LION'S DEN by the director Pablo TRAPERO in competition of the official selection at the 61st Cannes Film Festival and winner of 5 awards including the Elcine First Prize for Best Film at the Lima Latin American Film Festival. In 2010, FINECUT presented 4 titles in Cannes Film Festival such as POETRY(dir. LEE Chang-dong) winner of the Best Screenplay Award, HAHAHA (dir. HONG Sangsoo) winner of Un Certain Regard Award, a successful debut film BEDEVILLED(dir. JANG Chulsoo) which was invited to Critic's Week, and the second collaboration with the Argentinean director CARANCHO(dir. Pablo Trapero) invited to Un Certain Regard. Also with one of the most controversial movie, I SAW THE DEVILL(dir. KIM Jee-woon), the company had brought on many sensational responses from all over the world.

The company also focuses on participating in co-production and financing for director-driven edgy projects from worldwide in support of directors, producers, financiers and aims to develop many international projects for its pipeline.