

[English Press Release]

**NEW ASIA FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTS A VISUAL FEAST FROM SINGAPORE
WITH A CANADIAN TWIST**

12 LOTUS

“...an Asian Moulin Rouge” (Variety Magazine)

NATURE ON ITS COURSE

“As much a visual experience as it is a tactile one” (Canadian Animation Resources)

Richmond, BC, March 11, 2010 – The New Asia Film Festival presents the thought-provoking two award winning animated short films, and the musical extravaganza, *12 Lotus*, at the Richmond Cultural Center on Saturday, March 27, from 7 pm – 10:30 pm.

Singapore’s film industry, though often overshadowed by its better known counterparts in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, and Korea, is actually a hidden gem cultivating world-class talent. This event will provide a rare opportunity for viewers to get a taste of Singaporean cinema and appreciate local artists of Singaporean descent.

Singapore-born Vancouver director Su-An Ng will be attending the event, presenting her animated short film *Nature on Its Course* and speaking with audience. Her award-winning film is about a careless hunter who takes more than he needs. Her message to viewers is to respect their environment and not to underestimate the forces of nature. Su-An Ng was presented the 2009 Emily Carr President’s Media Arts Award for her creativity, originality, and risk-taking. She was “inspired by the contrasting attitudes people have towards the environment and a reflection of the attitudes observed in Singapore and Canada.”

Another short animation *Hush Baby* was from Singapore filmmaker Tan Wei Keong. The story is about a over protected baby’s struggle for liberation. The many expressive faces of the baby are brought to life with dark humour and wit.

Described in the New York Times as the “bad-boy” of Singapore’s film world, celebrated director Royston Tan delivers *12 Lotus*, a unique and flamboyant musical melodrama that centers on a famous *getai* (song stage) singer. The tragedy that unfolds is a tale of love and betrayal by the heartless men in her life who use and abuse her during her meteoric rise to fame and fall from grace.

A provocative insight into Singapore’s heritage and cosmopolitan society, this event is presented by the Cinevolution Media Arts Society & Richmond Cultural Center, in conjunction with the Vancouver Singapore Film Festival and MediaCorp Raintree Pictures, the pioneering movie company in Singapore.

The New Asia Film Festival’s *Monthly Film Series* is free with a one-time annual membership of \$5. For event details, visit the festival’s website at www.vnaff.ca.