2020 Productions
MEKONG 2030

OVERVIEW
With technical and financial support from the Asia Foundation, Oxfam, the Mekong River Commission, and Heinrich Böll Foundation, LPFF completed its anthology of five short films that envision the Mekong River in the year 2030, through the perspectives of filmmakers from five regional countries. The directors involved in the project are:

- Kulikar Sotho (Cambodia)
- Anysay Keola (Laos)
- Sai Naw Kham (Myanmar)
- Anocha Suwichakornpong (Thailand)
- Pham Ngoc Lan (Vietnam)

SCREENINGS + TALKS
During 2020, the film screened at 26 international events and the directors participated in 9 panels and Q&As.

PRESS + REVIEWS
The screenings garnered press from publications such as the Southeast Asia Globe, Hyperallergic, and B-Side.

...when it comes to “Mekong 2030,” diversity is actually one of the benefits, if not the most interesting factor, of the whole project, as it combines the visions of creative minds from different cultures and countries.

— Asian Movie Plus
In February and March of 2020, the LPFF team brought its "Films from our Home" Roadshow to Vientiane Capital, Xayabouly, and Xieng Khuang. At each of these locations, LPFF hosted a two-day celebration of Lao cinema, complete with feature and short film screenings, and on-stage discussions with filmmakers. The Roadshow was supported by Voice, the US Embassy Vientiane, the British Embassy Vientiane, Pepsi, Crowne Plaza, Lao Telecom, and Lao Tobacco.

The feature films showcased a diversity of voices from varied backgrounds, while also appealing to a broad audience:

- **Expiration Date** by Anysay Keola
- **Noy—Above It All** by Anysay Keola
- **Dearest Sister** by Mattie Do
- **The Last Voice** by Jojo Miracle
2020 Workshops
Pop-Up Studio

OVERVIEW

The Roadshow venues also played host to the Pop-Up Studio, an interactive informational space in which visitors were invited to learn the basics of smartphone filmmaking. Staffed by professional Lao filmmakers (including female filmmakers and people from ethnic minority backgrounds), the Pop-Up Studio guided visitors through each step of making a short film on their phones—from writing a screenplay and storyboarding to simple lighting set-ups. The Pop-Up Studio was supported by Voice, The US Embassy, and the UK Embassy.

RESOURCES

Just outside the Studio, LPFF’s Filmmaking 101 tutorials were featured on a large-screen television. As part of the Pop-Up Studio’s mission to extend access to filmmaking and storytelling, film experts gave away smartphone filmmaking equipment and relevant app download vouchers to the most engaged attendees.

Additionally, LPFF created a page on its website dedicated to aggregated resources for amateur filmmakers, intended to complement the Pop-Up Studio’s instructional panels and hands-on activities.
2020 Grants
Lao Filmmakers Fund

OVERVIEW

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Oxfam in Laos both supported the Lao Filmmakers Fund this year, and their contributions resulted in its largest-ever funding pool of more than $50,000 USD granted directly to Lao film productions. This was a significant expansion for the Fund, double the total amount in its 2019 cycle.

THE PROJECTS

LPFF awarded grants to 7 film projects from four of the country’s provinces and Vientiane Capital. The selected projects include films dealing with marginalized identity groups, specifically women, the youth, the elderly, and people with disabilities:

FEATURES

Sepia // Narrative
Province: Khammouane, Vientiane Capital
Director: Phanumad Disattha

Absence of Sound // Narrative
Province: Luang Prabang
Director: Sonepasith Phanphila

SHORTS

“J-ID” // Narrative
Province: Vientiane Capital
Director: Phonesavanh Saengphachan

“Time Missing” // Narrative
Province: Houaphan
Director: Ting Veu

“The Service” // Narrative
Province: Vientiane Capital
Director: Anouphon Phomhacsar

“The Boy” // Narrative
Province: Vientiane Capital
Director: Thanouphet Onmavong

DOCUMENTARIES

“Stone Buddha Statues” // Short
Province: Champasak
Director: Xam Keodouangdy

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The 10th Luang Prabang Film Festival took place online from 4 to 10 December 2020. The lineup of 24 feature films and 10 shorts was available for free across Southeast Asia on LPFF’s streaming platform.

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CONTENT

- Daily Screenings from LPFF’s Archives (8)
- 8 Feature Films from First Time Directors
- MEKONG 2030 Director’s & Dialogue Bonus Content
- Films from 9 ASEAN countries
- Exclusive Programming Insights
- 3 Films from Lao Filmmakers Fund
- 12 Films from Women Filmmakers
- Southeast Asian Premiere of kOng

THE RESULTS

The festival welcomed over 8,000 unique users who participated in over 11,000 streams.

PRESS

The festival was featured in publications such as The Hollywood Reporter and Variety.
We want to express our deepest gratitude to all of our supporters. Our work would not be possible without your generous contributions and investment in the success of the regional film industry.

Virtual Festival Sponsors and Partners

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THANK YOU FOR A GREAT 2020!

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