

Philippine Films at the 62nd Berlinale

At the 62nd Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale), Philippine cinema will once again share the spotlight alongside film entries from all over the world. This year, four (4) Filipino films will be fielded in four competitions:

Main Competition Programme:

“Captive”



This fiction film retraces real life events about a hostage drama in southern Philippines. Mr. Brillante Mendoza directed this film which is among the first five films selected as official entries in the Main Competition this year.

For almost the past three decades, the Philippines has not had a film entry in the Main Competition section. The first and only time it did was in 1983 with the film ‘Himala’ by award-winning director Ishmael Bernal. Director Mendoza’s *Captive* hopes

to once more gain Berlinale audiences’ attention to the excellence of filmmaking in the Philippines. Mr. Mendoza is the first and only Filipino so far to have won the Best Director award at the Cannes Film Festival for his film ‘*Kinatay*’ (2009). *Captive* is among the first five entries publicly announced for the Competition last January. Around 22 films so far from all over the world are competing this year.

Captive will have its world premiere showing at the Berlinale on 12 February 2012, 19:30hr at the Berlinale Palast.

Forum Section:

“Ang Babae Sa Septic Tank”



An independent film about how to make (or not to make?) independent films. Indie films, as they are more popularly known, are making it big in the Philippines. This film, *Ang Babae sa Septic Tank*, directed by Marlon N. Rivera, is a hilarious take on the Filipino indie film industry, its ups and downs, and the seemingly endless challenges that indie filmmakers face.

This film garnered the Best Director, Best Actress (Ms. Eugene Domingo) and Best Film awards at the 7th *Cinemalaya Philippine Independent Film*

Festival in Manila in 2011. It is Marlon Rivera’s directorial debut, and it is competing in this year’s Berlinale Forum section.

Ang Babae sa Septic Tank will have its European premiere showing at the Berlinale on 11 February 2012, 22:00hr at the Cinestar 8 theatre.

Generation Kplus Section:

“Nono”



For the young generation section, the film “*Nono*,” is the Philippines’ entry this year. Directed by Rommel Tolentino, the film is about a young child with a speech disability due to facial deformity, and his desire to join the oratorical contest during his school’s National Language Week celebration. *Nono* has already won the Special Jury Prize in the 2009 Cinemalaya Philippine Independent Film Festival in Manila, while Director Tolentino is the first Filipino filmmaker who has won the very prestigious **Clermont Ferrand International Short Film Festival** in France in 2009.

According to the Berlinale’s website, the *Generation section* is “home to works that are thematically and aesthetically linked to the experiences of children and young people, despite

being originally intended for another target audience. Such films are often suitable for young people and can therefore be also marketed towards them.”

Nono will have its European premiere showing at the Berlinale on 14 February 2012, 12:30hr at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt Kino 1.

Short Film Section:

“*Pusong Wazak!*”



This year, 27 films from 22 countries will be competing for the Golden Bear and Silver Bear Jury Prize, the DAAD Short Film Award and a short film nomination for the European Film Prize.

Pusong Wazak! is the classic love story between a gangster and a prostitute. “Khavn de la Cruz deconstructs this often recounted tale of love and explores in fleeting images the likelihood of dying too early from the violence so omnipresent in the Philippines today,” says the Berlinale Short Film press release. Khavn de la Cruz sat as a member of the International Short Film Jury of the Berlinale in 2008. He is not only a filmmaker, but also a multi-awarded writer and composer, and is the festival

director of .MOV, the first digital film festival in the Philippines.

Pusong Wazak! will have its world premiere showing at the Berlinale on 14 February 2012, 16:00hr at the CinemaxX 5 theatre.

SCHEDULE OF SCREENINGS

DATE	TIME	THEATRE
“CAPTIVE”		
12.02.2012	19:30	Berlinale Palast
13.02.2012	12:00	Friedrichstadt Palast
13.02.2012	20:30	Friedrichstadt Palast
15.02.2012	15:00	Friedrichstadt Palast
19.02.2012	21:45	Friedrichstadt Palast
“ANG BABAE SA SEPTIC TANK”		
11.02.2012	22:00	Cinestar 8
12.02.2012	20:00	Colosseum 1
14.02.2012	15:00	Kino Arsenal 1
17.02.2012	22:30	Cubix 9
“NONO”		
14.02.2012	12:30	Haus der Kulturen der Welt Kino 1
15.02.2012	14:00	CinemaxX 3
17.02.2012	10:00	Filmtheater am Friedrichshain
“PUSONG WAZAK”		
14.02.2012	16:00	CinemaxX 5
16.02.2012	22:00	CinemaxX 3
18.02.2012	17:45	Colosseum 1

Theatre addresses

Berlinale Palast

Marlene Dietrich Platz 1, Tiergarten district

Friedrich Palast

Friedrichstr. 107, 10117 Berlin-Mitte

CinemaxX

Potsdamer Platz, Potsdamer Straße 5
(Kinoeingang in der Voxstraße 2)
10785 Berlin

Cinestar

Potsdamer Strasse 4, 10785 Berlin

Colosseum

Schönhauser Allee 123, 10437 Berlin
Prenzlauer Berg district

Cubix

Rathausstr. 1, Alexanderplatz
10178 Berlin

Kino Arsenal

Potsdamer Strasse 2, 10785 Berlin

Filmtheater am Friedrichshain

Bötzowstrasse. 1-5 in 10407 Berlin
Prenzlauer Berg district

Haus der Kulturen der Welt

John-Foster-Dulles-Allee 10 10557 Berlin
Tiergarten district

More information on the Berlinale:

www.berlinale.de