



**ARTS
EAST-WEST**

**Invitation: Opening Ceremony — 13th Montreal Asian International Film Festival
May 14, 2026 | 5:00–8:30 PM at Cinéma du Musée**

Dear friends, artists, colleagues, and partners,

The 13th Montreal Asian International Film Festival is almost here — and we would be deeply honoured to celebrate its opening with you. Please join us on **Thursday, May 14th, from 5:00 to 8:30 PM at Cinéma du Musée** (Address: 1379-A Sherbrooke St W, Montréal, Québec H3G 1K3).

This year carries a special weight. 2026 marks the 30th anniversary of Arts East-West, the non-profit media arts organization founded in 1995 under the motto “Where East Meets West” — beginning with a landmark collaboration between three master Korean directors and MoMA, which toured four major Cinémathèques across Canada in 1996.

In the spirit of that enduring legacy, and in response to the growing richness and urgency of Asian Canadian storytelling, we have taken a bold and meaningful step: transforming the historical 12th edition of the Korean Film Festival Canada (KFFC) — recognized by Heritage Canada as the longest-running Korean film festival in the country — into **the 13th Montreal Asian International Film Festival**. Our new motto, UNBOUND, reflects our vision for the next 30 years.

Opening Reception | 5:00–6:00 PM

Hosts: **Big Daddy Queen Power & Jinwoo Park.**

Join us for a warm and intimate gathering with directors, artists, and distinguished guests. The evening begins with a homemade Korean spread: keto-kimbap, veggie-filled japchae, Mi-Jeong Lee's eco-kimchi, and more. For our youngest guests, a playful “Ungnyeo's Cave” kid-zone will be set up in the lobby, alongside an eco green-road and a textile photo zone. Live performances by Big Daddy Queen Power and jazz pianist Anna Chowattanakul will set the tone for the evening. As always, Arts East-West is committed to a plastic-free, environmentally conscious celebration.

Film Screenings | 6:30–8:30 PM

Saekdong / Colour of Korea — HAN Okhi (7 min, 16mm)

Part of our HAN Okhi Retrospective, spotlighting her pioneering contributions to women's experimental cinema in Asia. In partnership with the Asia Culture Center, Korea.

There Are No Words — Min-Sook Lee

Québec Premiere of this powerful, award-winning documentary — with the director in attendance. Supported by the National Film Board of Canada.

Red Star Alley — Jenny Yujia Shi

A delicate experimental animation crafted from backlit paper cut-outs. Part of the Asian Canadian Animation Spotlight, in partnership with the National Film Board of Canada.

Confirmed Guests (as of May 6, 2026)

Among the artists and directors joining us: Min-Sook Lee, Karen Cho, Alice Shin, Shanghoon, Janet Lumb, Guy Rogers, Jinwoo Park, Frédéric Loury, the GIV core team, KANG Min Gu, Nadja Furth, Nick Maturo, Tina Christine, Anna Chowattanakul, and many more.

Among our government partners: KANG Mingu (Acting Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Montréal), Josué Corvil (Conseiller associé à la culture, à la diversité, à l'inclusion et au vivre-ensemble, Arrondissement de Villeray–Saint-Michel–Parc-Extension), representatives from the Canadian government, and many other distinguished guests.

A Personal Note

This opening of the 13th edition of MAiFF is only our first step in connecting Montréal to the world through Asian and Asian Canadian screen culture — a movement we are proud to be part of. We are a festival still growing, and we welcome your patience, your generosity, and your voice as we build together. We are operating with a modest budget this edition, and every ticket purchased makes a direct difference. We warmly encourage you to attend with family, friends, and colleagues. All proceeds go toward the growth and development of MAiFF.

13th MAiFF Full Program | May 14 – June 13, 2026

May 8 — Asian-Canadian Short Films | Art Souterrain

May 14 — Opening Ceremony | Cinéma du Musée

May 15 & 19 — Workshops | Ada X and GIV

May 16, 22, 29 & 30 — Screenings | Cinéma du Parc

May 25 – June 13 — Online Film Screenings (Free admission)

May 26, June 6, 12 & 13 — Panel Discussions & Screenings | Goethe-Institut Montréal

June 5 & 6 — Intercultural Dialogue with Senior Communities (Free)

June 8, 9, 12 & 13 — Screenings | Cinéma Moderne

The 13th MAiFF is gratefully supported by the Department of Canadian Heritage, Emploi-Québec, David M. Culver Centre: Arts Internship Office (AIO) at McGill University, Quebec Korean Foundation, Goethe-Institut Montréal, Korean Film Archive (KOFA), Asia Cultural Center Korea (ACC), National Film Board (NFB), Film Movement, Ada X, Art Souterrain, Groupe Intervention Vidéo (GIV), Independent Media Arts Alliance (IMAA), and English Language Arts Network–Quebec (ELAN-Quebec).

We look forward to welcoming you on May 14th.

With warmth and gratitude,

Mi-Jeong Lee

Founder & Director

[13th MAFF: May 8–June 13, 2026 — Call for Submissions](#)

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