

# The CityPossible II Film Festival

The Substation, Tuesday, 2 July 2013 at 6pm



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## **THE CITYPOSSIBLE II FILM FESTIVAL – 2 JULY 2013**

Co-organised by FASS Cities Research Cluster, Urban Knowledge Network Asia, NL  
ARI Asian Urbanisms Cluster, and the Future Cities Lab

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The CityPossible Film Festival is back for the second time in Singapore! We continue to ask the question: What is the possible city? Current urban development trajectories encourage commercialisation to extract profit from various layers of the increasingly urban society. Meaningful communities are challenged to find space, time, and resources when they are diverted to focus on lifestyle and consumption within placeless architectures. Unfettered capitalism pushes cities to become engines of growth rather than theatres of social life. The CityPossible Film Festival brings together the stories of people who have joined together to resist the loss of their life-spaces and to remake the city through their own visions of what could be. From the street corner to the metropolis, these films inspire us as we celebrate the human spirit through cinema.

## **ORGANISERS**

### **Prof Mike Douglass**

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# THE CITYPOSSIBLE II FILM FESTIVAL

THE SUBSTATION - 45 Armenian Street , Singapore 179936

2 July 2013 (Tuesday)

18:00 – 18:05	REGISTRATION
18:05 – 18:40	<b>PART 1: WHAT IS A CITY?</b>
	<b>DABBAWALLA</b> by Daniel Klein & Mirra Fine <b>DILLI</b> by Sushmit Ghosh & Rintu Thomas <b>LEAF OF FAITH</b> by Crystal Toh, Diane Therese, Eunice Lee, Marie Lee, Marinah Musa
18:40 – 19:10	<b>PART 2: CITIES BY THE PEOPLE</b>
	<b>PULAU UBIN</b> by Koh Yiwei <b>PLACE FOR COMMUNITY</b> by Amrit Kaur Jastol <b>KAMPONG BUANGKOK, SINGAPORE</b> by Chang Kai Xiang
19:10 – 19:45	<b>PART 3: ALTERNATIVE SPACES</b>
	<b>A TALE OF TWO ROOFTOPS</b> by Daniel Klein & Mirra Fine <b>MR. LONG'S TRAVELING CINEMA</b> by Hoang Manh Cuong <b>REPLAY</b> Clarisse Tan, Katherine Tan, Kok Shi Ying, Sivanangai Thirumeni, Vanathy C. Nathan
19:45 – 20:05	BREAK
20:05 – 21:00	<b>PART 4: SPACES OF HOPE</b>
	<b>CILIWUNG LARUNG</b> by I. Sandyawan Sumardi <b>TRONG PHUONG THANH CONG CO LANG THANH CONG</b> by Phan Thi Cang Anh
21:00 – 21:30	DISCUSSION
21:30	END OF FLIM FESTIVAL

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## ABOUT THE FILMS

### DABBAWALLA

**Director:** Daniel Klein and Mirra Fine

Each day in Mumbai 4000 men in white outfits and matching hats transport 175,000 lunches across the big city. They retrieve the tiffens (lunch containers) of food from mothers and wives, and bring them (by foot, train, bicycle and even carried on top of their heads) to the office buildings of waiting husbands and sons. The Dabbawallas have been doing this since the late 1800s. Despite the unsophisticated mode of transport, the lunches always arrive on time (the error rate is 1 in every 16 million transactions). It's a pretty impressive feat and we were lucky enough to follow a couple Dabbawallas for a day in Mumbai, and see their work first hand.

### DILLI

**Director:** Sushmit Ghosh and Rintu Thomas

"Dilli" is a short documentary film produced by the Robin Raina Foundation (RRF), about the hidden faces behind the so called development of Delhi and their untold story. The film is being premiered at the NASDAQ in Times Square, New York on April 1, 2011 following the ringing of the NASDAQ closing bell by Robin Raina, Founder RRF. "Dilli" brings out a stark comparison of the rampant progress and development of the megalopolis vis-à-vis thousands who are left homeless while the whole city is modernized and revamped. "Dilli" records and documents the evacuation of the thousands who in a matter of minutes lost their homes, and were left in a sea of rubble with nowhere to go and no ray of hope for a better tomorrow. Director Sushmit Ghosh and Rintu Thomas eloquently weave this untold story of mass exodus of thousands who were bulldozed from their homes and transferred to a makeshift facade - Bawana without water, shelter or drainage while the city was redone for Commonwealth Games 2010. RRF is presently carrying out the largest private charity home building initiative in the Indian sub-continent, in terms of building 6000 homes, free of cost, for the underprivileged slum dwellers of Delhi.

### LEAF OF FAITH

**Directors:** Crystal Toh, Diane Therese, Eunice Lee, Marie Lee, Marinah Musa, Nicole Chia

Leaf of Faith tells the story of a temple built around a tree in the heart of Toa Payoh. This documentary raises the question of whether faith alone is enough to sustain the running of the temple.

### PULAU UBIN

**Director:** Koh Yiwei

A short documentary on Pulau Ubin, the second largest offshore island of Singapore. Located on the north east of the city-state, the island remains one of its rare natural spots. Recent development plans may change this place that has been adored not just by nature-lovers, but also by its residents.

### 人情位: PLACE FOR COMMUNITY

**Director:** Amrit Kaur Jastol

The traditional provision shop is a symbol of community and heartland heritage. However, increased competition from supermarkets and other convenience stores has led to the decline of this trade. There is no place for such provision shops in society anymore as they are slowly dying out.

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### KAMPONG BUANGKOK, SINGAPORE

**Director:** Chang Kai Xiang

Located at the northeastern part of Singapore, is the last surviving village on the island. Although the kampong is regularly affected by floods, while infrastructure services and distance to amenities are constantly challenging. However, residents still continue to enjoy the life setting in the village and build their identities based on the locality.

### A TALE OF TWO ROOFTOPS

**Directors:** Daniel Klein and Mirra Fine

A tale of two men, two cities and two farms. Filmed in Beijing and Hong Kong, this video shares the new excitement about alternative farming and food in China.

### MR LONG'S TRAVELLING CINEMA

**Director:** Hoang Manh Cuong

For the last 50 years, Mr Long has entertained people on the streets of Hanoi with his own home-made style of storytelling – relying mainly on good old-fashioned ingenuity and some low-tech gadgetry to provide a multi-sensory experience for his audience. Mr Long projects paper cut-out images, then diffuses various aromas, simulates wind and rain with fans and water bottles, even producing sound effects with tin cans and string. But on the occasion of Hanoi's millennial celebrations, Mr Long wants to tell a story that will reach multiple audiences – using computer animation. The programme reveals the remarkable life story of Hanoi's charismatic raconteur.

### REPLAY

**Directors:** Clarisse Tan, Katherine Tan, Kok Shi Ying, Sivanangai Thirumeni, Vanathy Chozha Nathan

A documentary featuring old playgrounds in Singapore, the meaningful memories and identities associated with playground designs.

### CILIWUNG LARUNG

**Directors:** I. Sandyawan Sumardi

The Bukit Duri Community on the banks of Ciliwung River constantly faces environmental challenges and social marginalisation. In the shadow of a corrupt country and the power of corrupt officials, residents construct a communal space in which they can conduct cultural activities, have regular meetings, read in a small library, and obtain health services. In 2010, residents joined together to craft, rehearse, and perform "Ciliwung Larung", a musical, at Taman Ismail Marzuki in Jakarta. The musical theater is a representation of their life experiences as Ciliwung residents.

### TRONG PHUONG THANH CONG CO LANG THANH CONG

**Director:** Phan Thi Cang Anh

Community loudspeakers are put around town to broadcast official messages from the People's Committee to the residents of Thanh Cong Village in Vietnam. What happens when information sharing becomes a noisy exercise? The film captures the experiences of residents in Thanh Cong and members of the Thanh Cong People's Committee around the loudspeakers on a street corner.