

PRESS RELEASE

Xiamen, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015**2015 Asian Side of the Doc | Xiamen International Documentary Conference**  
17-20 March 2015 | XIAMEN, China**Asian Side of the Doc closes with record Asian participation!**

The 2015 [Asian Side of the Doc together with Xiamen International Documentary Conference](#), closes on high and maintains its network wide open to more business opportunities within the booming Asian factual market.

It was a very inspirational week of conversations, pitches and talks, in Xiamen, Chinese city host of the 6th edition of the factual content sales market and project development platform. The stronger focus on new media platforms such as Youku, iQiyi or Ifeng.com encouraged discussions on new ways of distribution and storytelling.

With a total number of **720 documentary professionals** from **38 countries**, 10% up on last year, the organisers' objective of bringing potential co-production partners together from "Asia to Asia" and from "Asia to Rest of World" is notably achieved.

**A wider participation from Asia, 75% of delegates**, means emerging talents and new slots brought by new Asian broadcasters attending: **SPARK Asia** (upcoming launch in 2015); **Japan**: WOWOW Inc., Chubu-Nippon Broadcasting Co. Ltd., KSB - Setonaikai Broadcasting Corporation, KTK - Television Kanazawa Corporation; **Laos**: LNTV - Lao National Television; **Indonesia**: Metro TV News - Pt. Media Televisi Indonesia, RTV - Rajawali Televisi Indonesia; **Malaysia**: mi Media International, TV7 - Natseven TV Sdn Bhd; **New Zealand**: Rialto Channel; **The Philippines**: ABS-CBN Global Ltd.

Yves Jeanneau, CEO of Sunny Side markets, commented: ***"My great pleasure here in Xiamen was to see the quality and the diversity of the pitched projects coming in from all over Asia. There is definitely new talents emerging in Asia, and Asian Side of the Doc is their best training programme to enter the international documentary market."***

**Asian Side of the Doc** is now recognized as a key marketplace for sales and acquisitions thanks to the 135 Asian and global decision makers, the catalogues brought by 40 international distributors and the 60 exhibiting companies on hand.

**Things are moving again in the world's fastest-growing markets in Asia, China.** Many deals were struck during Asian Side 2015 including with SMG (Shanghai Media Group), and three international co-productions agreements have been signed on-site: the French company Georama TV Productions collaborates with Heilongjiang Television (HLJTV - China) on the selected project "*Flood, Challenging our Future*"; National Geographic Channel (NGC), NHNZ (New Zealand) and Beijing Keying have teamed up to co-produce a 2-hour special called "*China Still Wild*". Chengdu Television and TV ONLY (France) finalized the details of their co-production on the 6 x 26' series "*A Chef On Tour*" that will be officially presented at Sunny Side of the Doc La Rochelle, from 22-25 June 2015.

Acquisitions from overseas are increasing thanks to the facilitator role played by our co-host China International Television Corporation/China Radio, Film & Television Program Exchange Center (CITVC/CHNPEC) within CCTV Group. Finally, Chinese funds starting to make investments into the documentary field (Xiamen Culture & Media Group, Tropic of Cancer Fund...) have been introduced to the international community and agreements are already confirming real financing possibilities.

The new regulations outlined by both SARFT and CCTV group's representatives at the market signaled a certain commitment to documentary, following the emergence of cinematic doc-makers and doc-financers.

### 2015 ASIAN SIDE OF THE DOC AWARDS ANNOUNCED

An International Jury decided the awards for the best pitched projects from the four Asian Side of the Doc pitching sessions.

#### The Jury:

- YING Qiming, Chief Art Director, DocuChina (SMG, China)
- Kim SPENCER, Founder of Link TV & Senior Programming Executive of KCETLink (United States)
- Liz STEVENS Senior Manager Documentary, Screen Australia
- HA Sinae, Producer, Boda Media Group (South Korea)
- Patrick HOERL, Managing Director, Autentic (Germany)

#### BEST CHINESE PROJECT

***My Dear Lines***, produced by Doc U Media & Culture Co.,Ltd (China)

On behalf of the Jury, **Ying Qiming** said:

*"We have chosen a project which puts the focus on talent, ambition but also on the self-doubt that every person encounters every now and then on their journey on earth. We believe this project has an amazing global potential with its emotional and touchy story."*

#### BEST ASIAN PROJECT

***The Tielman Brothers: And the Birth of the IndoRock***, produced by Hj Production (Indonesia). Jury member, **Ha Sinae** praised this particular project because of its unique chance for the Western world to understand an Asian country's history through the eyes of an exceptional musician.

*"We feel that this will be a challenging journey to cope for the filmmaker where he looks for intuitive ways to overcome the political challenges in his country while he is bringing the film on the international scene."*

#### BEST INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

***Worse than War - Fighting Ebola in Liberia's Bong County***, produced by Docdays Productions GmbH (Germany)

**Kim Spencer** insisted on the jury's consensus: *"The jury has unanimously chosen this project for pushing the boundaries of its investigation. Courageously in a country where no international outsiders were allowed and by giving the word to locals during a time of an international outbreak."*

**SUPPORTERS OF ASIAN SIDE OF THE DOC 2015**

**Jointly organised by** Xiamen Municipal Government **and** Sunny Side of the Doc  
**Hosted by** Xiamen Media Group (XMG), Xiamen Culture & Media Group (XCMG), China Radio, Film & Television Program Exchange Center (CHNPEC), **co-hosted by** China Network Television (CNTV), DOCU China, China Radio and Television Press (CRTP), Chinese Television Artists Association Documentary Academic Committee, China Science Film and Video Association, China Education Television (CETV).

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**In partnership with:** The French Embassy in China, Faguowenhua.com, Screen Australia, CNEX, TI Com Net Japan, Tokyo Docs, Doc Port Incheon, Television Asia Plus, Content Asia, Content China.

**Organisers**



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