

**FOR THE SEVENTH SEASON OF CONTEMPORASIAN, THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART BRINGS TOGETHER FILMS THAT REPRESENT THE RAPIDLY TRANSFORMING VISUAL CULTURE OF ASIA**

**The Exhibition Features Films from Hong Kong, Iran, Japan, and South Korea, with an Extended Spotlight on Films from the Tibetan Plateau**

**MoMA Presents: ContemporAsian**

April 21–August 31, 2014

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters

**NEW YORK, April 15, 2014**—The Museum of Modern Art presents the seventh season of **ContemporAsian**, an ongoing series showcasing films that get little exposure outside of their home countries or on the international festival circuit, but which engage the various styles, histories, and changes in Asian cinema, from April 21 to August 31, 2014, in the Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters. Presented in weeklong engagements, the films in the series include recent independent gems by both new and established filmmakers whose work represents the rapidly transforming visual culture of the region. This year's selection, which includes films from Hong Kong, Iran, South Korea, and Japan, culminates in *Lens on Tibet*, a dedicated look at contemporary Tibetan film. *ContemporAsian* is organized by Jytte Jensen, Curator, Department of Film, with thanks to the Korea Society. *Lens on Tibet* is organized by Sally Berger, Assistant Curator, Department of Film, and Paola Vanzo, Director of Communications and Development, and Kristina Dy-Liacco, Librarian, Trace Foundation.

*ContemporAsian's* seventh season opens with *Bends* (2013), Flora Lau's classical drama, which debuted in the Cannes Film Festival's Un Certain Regard section. The film is a two-character piece in which each personifies the differences between Hong Kong and mainland China, and their somewhat uneasy co-existence. A wealthy Hong Kong housewife, Anna, lives a spoiled, bored life. When her husband suddenly leaves, taking the money and prestige with him, she refuses to accept her changed circumstances. Her chauffeur, Fai, who lives in an ugly barrack across the border in Shenzhen, is trying to get his wife—whose second pregnancy is a violation of the Chinese one-child policy—over the border so she can give birth in Hong Kong. With beautiful camera work by the incomparable Christopher Doyle, the film's elegant look and languorous rhythms create an affecting reflection of the characters' emotional isolation. As they become increasingly desperate, the sharp distinctions between their two worlds become ever clearer.

In May, Atsushi Funahashi's *Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom)* (2012), tells an achingly beautiful tale of grief and forgiveness in post-Fukushima Japan. The film takes place in Hitachi, a seaside town recovering from its 2011 devastation, and follows a young couple named Shiori and Kenji who work in a small factory. Embracing a tender humanism and classical style, *Cold Bloom's* distinctly contemporary setting and narrative infuse a rich tradition with vitality and aplomb.

Making its New York debut in June, the explosive *Dast-Neveshtehaa Nemisoosand* (*Manuscripts Don't Burn*) (2013)—the latest from Iran's great dissident filmmaker Mohammad Rasoulof—will be presented in collaboration with the film's U.S. distributor, Kino Lorber. Produced clandestinely to circumvent a 20-year filmmaking ban passed down by the Iranian authorities, the film draws from the true story of the government's attempted 1995 murder of several prominent writers and intellectuals. In the film, Rasoulof imagines a repressive regime so pervasive that even the morally righteous are subsumed or cast aside. A lacerating, slow-burning thriller filmed in a frigid palate of blues and greys, *Manuscripts Don't Burn* is perhaps the most subversive and incendiary *j'accuse* lodged at an authoritarian regime since the fall of the Soviet Union.

In July, MoMA presents South Korean newcomer Su-jin Lee's *Han Gong-Ju* (2013), the bold and impressive tale of a young teenager grappling with her dark past. The titular teen, Han Gong-Ju, is introduced as she's being shuffled from meeting to meeting, in an attempt to settle into a new city, a new school, and a new life. Set against reticent new friendships, Han Gong-Ju's story eventually emerges. In his unusually brave debut feature, Su-jin Lee handles both complex plotting and difficult subject matter with a thoughtful sophistication, bolstered by an impressive performance from the emotive Woo-hee Chun.

Finally, in August, the series turns a Lens on Tibet with a 13-film program of recent Tibetan documentary and narrative films. *Lens on Tibet* includes the world premiere of Tashi Chopel's *The Son of a Herder* (2014), an unembellished portrait of the life of a plateau herder in eastern Tibet's remote Zehok region. The film highlights an existence caught between ideals and reality, modernity and tradition, and individual choices. *Yartsa Rinpoche (Precious Caterpillar)* (2013), directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang, follows Darlo, an elder in the Amdo region, and his family as they journey 800 kilometers to collect *Cordyceps sinensis* (in Tibetan, *Yartsa-gunbu*), which has been called "Tibet's golden worm" and "The Viagra of the Himalayas." *Yartsa Rinpoche*—which is presented in a weeklong run—receives its North American premiere along with Jocelyn Ford's breakout *Nowhere to Call Home* (2014), Dan Smyer Yu's *Embrace* (2011), Khashem Gyal's *The Valley of the Heroes* (2013), and Dukar Tserang's *They Are One Hundred Years Old* (2014).

**No. 17**

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**Public Information:**

**The Museum of Modern Art**, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019, (212) 708-9400, MoMA.org.

**Hours:** Saturday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

**Museum Admission:** \$25 adults; \$18 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$14 full-time students with current I.D. Free, members and children 16 and under. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs). Free admission during Uniqlo Free Friday Nights: Fridays, 4:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

**MoMA.org:** No service charge for tickets ordered on MoMA.org. Tickets purchased online may be printed out and presented at the Museum without waiting in line. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs).

**Film and After Hours Program Admission:** \$12 adults; \$10 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$8 full-time students with current I.D. The price of an After Hours Program Admission ticket may be applied toward the price of a Museum admission ticket or MoMA Membership within 30 days.

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**Screening Schedule**  
**MoMA Presents: ContemporAsian**  
***Bends***  
**April 21–27, 2014**

**Monday, April 21**

7:00            **Bends.** 2013. Hong Kong. Written and directed by Flora Lau. With Carina Lau, Chen Kun, Tian Yuan. Flora Lau's classical drama, which debuted in the Cannes Film Festival's Un Certain Regard section, is a two-character piece in which each personifies the differences between Hong Kong and mainland China, and their somewhat uneasy coexistence. A wealthy Hong Kong housewife, Anna, lives a spoiled, bored life. When her husband suddenly leaves, taking the money and prestige with him, she refuses to accept her changed circumstances. Her chauffeur, Fai, who lives in an ugly barrack across the border in Shenzhen, is trying to get his wife—whose second pregnancy is a violation of the Chinese one-child policy—over the border so she can give birth in Hong Kong. With beautiful camera work by the incomparable Christopher Doyle, the film's elegant look and languorous rhythms create an affecting reflection of the characters' emotional isolation. As they become increasingly desperate, the sharp distinctions between their two worlds become ever clearer. In Cantonese, Mandarin; English subtitles. 97 min. **Introduced by Flora Lau. Post-screening discussion with Lau**

**Tuesday, April 22**

7:00            **Bends.** 2013. Hong Kong. Written and directed by Flora Lau. With Carina Lau, Chen Kun, Tian Yuan. In Cantonese, Mandarin; English subtitles. 97 min. (See Monday, April 21, 7:00 for description)

**Wednesday, April 23**

4:00            **Bends.** 2013. Hong Kong. Written and directed by Flora Lau. With Carina Lau, Chen Kun, Tian Yuan. In Cantonese, Mandarin; English subtitles. 97 min. (See Monday, April 21, 7:00 for description)

**Thursday, April 24**

4:00            **Bends.** 2013. Hong Kong. Written and directed by Flora Lau. With Carina Lau, Chen Kun, Tian Yuan. In Cantonese, Mandarin; English subtitles. 97 min. (See Monday, April 21, 7:00 for description)

**Friday, April 25**

7:00            **Bends.** 2013. Hong Kong. Written and directed by Flora Lau. With Carina Lau, Chen Kun, Tian Yuan. In Cantonese, Mandarin; English subtitles. 97 min. (See Monday, April 21, 7:00 for description)

**Saturday, April 26**

4:00 **Bends.** 2013. Hong Kong. Written and directed by Flora Lau. With Carina Lau, Chen Kun, Tian Yuan. In Cantonese, Mandarin; English subtitles. 97 min. (See Monday, April 21, 7:00 for description)

**Sunday, April 27**

5:00 **Bends.** 2013. Hong Kong. Written and directed by Flora Lau. With Carina Lau, Chen Kun, Tian Yuan. In Cantonese, Mandarin; English subtitles. 97 min. (See Monday, April 21, 7:00 for description)

**Screening Schedule**  
**MoMA Presents: ContemporAsian**  
***Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom)***  
**May 16–22, 2014**

**Friday, May 16**

4:30 **Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom).** 2012. Japan. Directed by Atsushi Funahashi. Screenplay by Funahashi, Shigeru Murakoshi. With Marika Matsumoto, Riki Miura, Takahiro Miura. In Hitachi, a seaside town recovering, if slowly, from its 2011 devastation, the young couple Shiori and Kenji are working in a small factory and even thinking of children, until one day Kenji is killed in a work accident, leaving Shiori and the remorseful coworker responsible for the accident to confront difficult questions of grief and forgiveness. Embracing a tender humanism and classical style, *Cold Bloom's* distinctly contemporary setting and narrative infuse a rich tradition with vitality and aplomb. In Japanese; English subtitles. 120 min.

**Saturday, May 17**

4:00 **Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom).** 2012. Japan. Directed by Atsushi Funahashi. Screenplay by Funahashi, Shigeru Murakoshi. With Marika Matsumoto, Riki Miura, Takahiro Miura. In Japanese; English subtitles. 120 min. (See Friday, May 16, 4:30 for description)

**Sunday, May 18**

5:00 **Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom).** 2012. Japan. Directed by Atsushi Funahashi. Screenplay by Funahashi, Shigeru Murakoshi. With Marika Matsumoto, Riki Miura, Takahiro Miura. In Japanese; English subtitles. 120 min. (See Friday, May 16, 4:30 for description)

**Monday, May 19**

4:00 **Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom).** 2012. Japan. Directed by Atsushi Funahashi. Screenplay by Funahashi, Shigeru Murakoshi. With Marika Matsumoto, Riki Miura, Takahiro Miura. In Japanese; English subtitles. 120 min. (See Friday, May 16, 4:30 for description)

**Tuesday, May 20**

7:00 **Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom)**. 2012. Japan. Directed by Atsushi Funahashi. Screenplay by Funahashi, Shigeru Murakoshi. With Marika Matsumoto, Riki Miura, Takahiro Miura. In Japanese; English subtitles. 120 min. (See Friday, May 16, 4:30 for description)

**Wednesday, May 21**

7:00 **Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom)**. 2012. Japan. Directed by Atsushi Funahashi. Screenplay by Funahashi, Shigeru Murakoshi. With Marika Matsumoto, Riki Miura, Takahiro Miura. In Japanese; English subtitles. 120 min. (See Friday, May 16, 4:30 for description)

**Thursday, May 22**

7:00 **Sakura Namiki no Mankai no Shita ni (Cold Bloom)**. 2012. Japan. Directed by Atsushi Funahashi. Screenplay by Funahashi, Shigeru Murakoshi. With Marika Matsumoto, Riki Miura, Takahiro Miura. In Japanese; English subtitles. 120 min. (See Friday, May 16, 4:30 for description)

**Screening Schedule**  
**MoMA Presents: ContemporAsian**  
***Manuscripts Don't Burn***  
**Presented in collaboration with the film's U.S. distributor, Kino Lorber**  
**June 13–19, 2014**

**Friday, June 13**

7:00 **Dast-Neveshtehaa Nemisoosand (Manuscripts Don't Burn)**. 2013. Iran. Written and directed by Mohammad Rasoulof. Cast and crew names withheld. Clandestinely produced in disavowal of a 20-year filmmaking ban passed down by the Iranian authorities, the scathing *Manuscripts Don't Burn* brings a whole new level of clarity and audacity to Mohammad Rasoulof's already laudable career. Drawing from the true story of the government's attempted 1995 murder of several prominent writers and intellectuals, Rasoulof imagines a repressive regime so pervasive that even the morally righteous are subsumed or cast aside. A lacerating and slow-burning thriller filmed in a frigid palate of blues and greys, *Manuscripts Don't Burn* is perhaps the most subversive and incendiary *j'accuse* lodged against an authoritarian regime since the fall of the Soviet Union. In Persian; English Subtitles. 125 min.

**Saturday, June 14**

4:00 **Dast-Neveshtehaa Nemisoosand (Manuscripts Don't Burn)**. 2013. Iran. Directed by Mohammad Rasoulof. In Persian; English subtitles. 127 min. (See Friday, June 13, 7:00 for description)

**Sunday, June 15**

5:00 **Dast-Neveshtehaa Nemisoosand (Manuscripts Don't Burn)**. 2013. Iran. Directed by Mohammad Rasoulof. In Persian; English subtitles. 127 min. (See Friday, June 13, 7:00 for description)

**Monday, June 16**

4:00 **Dast-Neveshtehaa Nemisoosand (Manuscripts Don't Burn)**. 2013. Iran. Directed by Mohammad Rasoulof. In Persian; English subtitles. 127 min. (See Friday, June 13, 7:00 for description)

### **Tuesday, June 17**

7:00           **Dast-Neveshtehaa Nemisoosand (Manuscripts Don't Burn).** 2013. Iran. Directed by Mohammad Rasoulof. In Persian; English subtitles. 127 min. (See Friday, June 13, 7:00 for description)

### **Wednesday, June 18**

4:00           **Dast-Neveshtehaa Nemisoosand (Manuscripts Don't Burn).** 2013. Iran. Directed by Mohammad Rasoulof. In Persian; English subtitles. 127 min. (See Friday, June 13, 7:00 for description)

### **Thursday, June 19**

4:00           **Dast-Neveshtehaa Nemisoosand (Manuscripts Don't Burn).** 2013. Iran. Directed by Mohammad Rasoulof. In Persian; English subtitles. 127 min. (See Friday, June 13, 7:00 for description)

**Screening Schedule**  
**MoMA Presents: ContemporAsian**  
***Han Gong-Ju***  
**July 1–7, 2014**

### **Tuesday, July 1**

7:00           **Han Gong-Ju.** 2013. South Korea. Written and directed by Su-jin Lee. With Woo-hee Chun, Jung In-sun, So-Young Kim. We're introduced, in medias res, to the titular teen Han Gong-Ju as she's being shuffled from meeting to meeting, in attempts to settle into a new city, a new school, and a new life. A sense of past trouble or tragedy hangs over her, though the film isn't quick to reveal itself. Set against reticent new friendships, Han Gong-Ju's story eventually emerges—at times gently teased, at times brutally dragged. In his unusually brave debut feature, director Su-jin Lee handles both complex plotting and difficult subject matter with a thoughtful sophistication, bolstered by an impressive performance from the emotive Woo-hee Chun. In Korean; English subtitles. 112 min.  
**Introduced by Su-jin Lee. Post-screening discussion with Lee**

### **Wednesday, July 2**

4:00           **Han Gong-Ju.** 2013. South Korea. Written and directed by Su-jin Lee. With Woo-hee Chun, Jung In-sun, So-Young Kim. (See Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 for description)

### **Thursday, July 3**

7:00           **Han Gong-Ju.** 2013. South Korea. Written and directed by Su-jin Lee. With Woo-hee Chun, Jung In-sun, So-Young Kim. (See Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 for description)

### **Friday, July 4**

4:00           **Han Gong-Ju.** 2013. South Korea. Written and directed by Su-jin Lee. With Woo-hee Chun, Jung In-sun, So-Young Kim. (See Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 for description)

### Saturday, July 5

5:00 **Han Gong-Ju.** 2013. South Korea. Written and directed by Su-jin Lee. With Woo-hee Chun, Jung In-sun, So-Young Kim. (See Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 for description)

### Sunday, July 6

2:00 **Han Gong-Ju.** 2013. South Korea. Written and directed by Su-jin Lee. With Woo-hee Chun, Jung In-sun, So-Young Kim. (See Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 for description)

### Monday, July 7

7:00 **Han Gong-Ju.** 2013. South Korea. Written and directed by Su-jin Lee. With Woo-hee Chun, Jung In-sun, So-Young Kim. (See Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 for description)

**Screening Schedule**  
**MoMA Presents: ContemporAsian**  
**Lens on Tibet**  
**August 21–31, 2014**

### Thursday, August 21

7:00 **Yartsa Rinpoche (Precious Caterpillar).** 2013. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. *Cordyceps sinensis* (in Tibetan, *Yartsa-gunbu*) has been called "Tibet's golden worm" and "The Viagra of the Himalayas." When it was discovered 30 years ago as a natural remedy, it became a boon to Tibetan nomads. Today, some nomadic Tibetan communities bring in as much as 80% of their income collecting Yartsa-gunbu. *Yartsa Rinpoche* follows Darlo, an elder in the Amdo region, who with his family forms a group of 30 that treks 800 kilometers to collect the worms, while exploring its larger implications. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 101 min. **North American premiere. Followed by discussion with Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang**

### Friday, August 22

4:00 **Yartsa Rinpoche (Precious Caterpillar).** 2013. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 101 min. (See Thursday, August 21, 7:00 for description)

7:00 **Silent Holy Stones.** 2005. China. Written and directed by Pema Tsenden. It happens in just 48 hours: "Little Lama," a 10-year-old Tibetan boy who's training to become a monk, returns home for New Year's celebrations. After a long journey on horseback over icy steppes, he finds solace in his family's new TV, and is unable to pull himself away from serials of Buddhist stories. "You dream too much for a young monk," his family tells him, and they're right: the more he watches, the more it becomes clear that there's no going back to his religious practices. An official selection of the Pusan International Film Festival, the International Buddhist Film Festival, the International Film Festival Rotterdam, and the San Francisco International Film Festival. In Tibetan, Chinese; English subtitles. 102 min. **Followed by discussion with Pema Tsenden.**

### Saturday, August 23

1:30 **Yartsa Rinpoche (Precious Caterpillar).** 2013. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 101 min. (See Thursday, August 21, 7:00 for description)

- 4:00        **Nowhere to Call Home.** 2014. USA. Directed by Jocelyn Ford. Widowed at 28, Tibetan farmer Zanta defies her tyrannical father-in-law and refuses to marry his other son. When Zanta's in-laws won't let her seven-year-old go to school, she flees to Beijing to become a street vendor. Destitute, she inveigles an American customer into paying her boy's school fees. On a holiday trip back to her village, Zanta's in-laws take her son hostage, drawing the unwitting American into the violent family feud. In Qiang, English, Chinese; English subtitles. 77 min. **North American premiere. Followed by discussion with Jocelyn Ford**
- 7:30        **The Sun Beaten Path.** 2011. China. Directed by Sonthar Gyal. This debut feature from the cinematographer of Pema Tseden's films, as well as *Embrace* (also screening in this series), presents the story of a young man making a pilgrimage to Lhasa to overcome the guilt of causing a family member's death. Based on a true story. In Tibetan, Chinese; English subtitles. 89 min. **New York premiere. Followed by discussion with Sonthar Gyal**

### **Sunday, August 24**

- 2:00        **Yartsa Rinpoche (Precious Caterpillar).** 2013. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 101 min. (See Thursday, August 21, 7:00 for description)
- 5:00        **Silent Holy Stones.** 2005. China. Written and directed by Pema Tseden. It happens in just 48 hours: "Little Lama," a 10-year-old Tibetan boy who's training to become a monk, returns home for New Year's celebrations. After a long journey on horseback over icy steppes, he finds solace in his family's new TV, and is unable to pull himself away from serials of Buddhist stories. "You dream too much for a young monk," his family tells him, and they're right: the more he watches, the more it becomes clear that there's no going back to his religious practices. An official selection of the Pusan International Film Festival, the International Buddhist Film Festival, the International Film Festival Rotterdam, and the San Francisco International Film Festival. In Tibetan, Chinese; English subtitles. 102 min.

### **Monday, August 25**

- 4:00        **Yartsa Rinpoche (Precious Caterpillar).** 2013. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 101 min. (See Thursday, August 21, 7:00 for description)
- 7:00        **Summer Pasture.** 2010. Tibet/USA. Directed by Lynn True, Nelson Walker, Tsering Perlo. In recent years growing pressures from the outside world have posed unprecedented challenges for Tibetan nomads. Rigid government policies, rangeland degradation, and the allure of modern life have prompted many nomadic families to leave the pastures for permanent settlement in towns and cities. *Summer Pasture* chronicles one summer with a young family amid this period of great uncertainty. With their pastoral traditions confronting rapid modernization, Locho, his wife Yama, and their infant daughter, nicknamed Jiatomah, must reconcile the challenges that drastically threaten to reshape their existence. In English, Tibetan; English subtitles. 85 minutes. **Followed by discussion with Lynn True and Nelson Walker**

### **Tuesday, August 26**



- 4:00 **Yartsa Rinpoche (Precious Caterpillar)**. 2013. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 101 min. (See Thursday, August 21, 7:00 for description)
- 7:00 **Daughters of Wisdom**. 2007. USA. Directed by Bari Pearlman. *Daughters of Wisdom* is an intimate portrait of the lives of a little-known sect of nuns of the Kala Ringo Monastery in remote rural Nangchen, Tibet. Under the leadership of a progressive teacher, the nuns are receiving unprecedented educational and religious training, and preserving their rich cultural heritage even as they slowly reshape it. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 68 min. **Followed by discussion with Bari Pearlman**

### Wednesday, August 27

- 4:00 **Yartsa Rinpoche (Precious Caterpillar)**. 2013. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 101 min. (See Thursday, August 21, 7:00 for description)
- 7:00 **A Gesar Bard's Tale**. 2013. China/Finland. Directed by Donagh Coleman, Lharigtsso. As a boy, Dawa was an illiterate Tibetan nomad whose life revolved around herding yaks. At 13, his life changed: through a series of visions, Dawa acquired the gift of telling the epic story of Tibet's King Gesar. Now, at 35, Dawa receives a salary from the Chinese government as a guardian of national cultural heritage and is regarded as a holy man by his community. When an earthquake reduced his hometown to rubble, Chinese redevelopment of the region took a giant leap forward. In the midst of such seismic shifts, Dawa seeks healing from King Gesar and other divine protectors of the land. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 82 min. **Followed by discussion with Donagh Coleman**

### Thursday, August 28

- 4:00 **The Son of a Herder**. 2014. China. Directed by Tashi Chopel. A herder's son, Gonpo Tsenden, has just completed training at a vocational school and is eager to reorient his ideals and ambitions beyond pastoral life. But reality presents him with a challenge and burdensome responsibility—horse racing, nomadic migration, and an illness in the family all compel him to follow the traditional role and values of a herdsman. This film, gorgeously shot in eastern Tibet's Zehok region, shows us an unembellished portrait of the life of a plateau herder, an existence caught between ideals and reality, modernity and tradition, and individual choices. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 64 min. **World premiere**
- 7:00 **Tantric Yogi**. 2005. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. This film focuses on an enormous *ngakpa* gathering in eastern Tibet that happens once every 60 years. Ngakpa is a Tibetan cultural and non-monastic spiritual tradition that was founded in the eighth century in which lay people can receive spiritual and cultural education. In following one group of ngakpa as they prepare for the trip from the filmmaker's home village, *Tantric Yogi* offers an intimate glimpse into lives of the ngakpa, as well as the daily practice of this ancient tradition. In English, Tibetan; English subtitles. 50 min.
- Embrace**. 2011. China/Germany/USA. Directed by Dan Smyer Yu, Pema Tashi. *Embrace* presents the complex reciprocal saturation of human communities, gods, Buddha Dharma, and a natural landscape marked with religious significance. Through the narratives of a father and a son, the film documents a ritualized relationship between people, the place of their dwelling, and their natural surroundings. Built around *ngakpa* tradition and the challenges it faces in a modern world, this extremely well researched, thoughtfully produced, and

beautifully shot film provides a glimpse into a rarely seen world. In English, Tibetan; English subtitles. 55 min. **North American premiere**

### **Friday, August 29**

- 4:00        **Nowhere to Call Home.** 2014. USA. Directed by Jocelyn Ford. In Tibetan, English, and Chinese; English subtitles. 77 min. (See Saturday, August 23, 4:00 for description)
- 7:00        **The Valley of the Heroes.** 2013. China. Directed by Khashem Gyal. This documentary, a project of Kham Film Project, offers a rare portrait of Tibetan Muslims in the Hualong area of eastern Tibet/Qinghai Province. Issues of identity and language are explored in this intimate and sensitive film. In Tibetan and Chinese; English subtitles. 53 min. **North American Premiere.**  
**Kokonor.** 2005. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. For centuries, Tibetan nomads were the only inhabitants on the banks of the sacred Lake Kokonor—the Blue Lake—in Amdo (eastern Tibet). Starting in the 1990s, the area saw a dramatic rise in domestic tourism: It was not just the lake’s beauty that drew tourists but the Tibetan culture in general. This influx of tourists came at a cost: the locals now find themselves having to adapt to new roles in the tourism industry. This glimpse at the Kokonor community examines the transformation of the lives of the Tibetans who live there. In English, Tibetan, Mandarin; English subtitles. 50 min. **Followed by a discussion with Khashem Gyal**

### **Saturday, August 30**

- 1:30        **The Sun Beaten Path.** 2011. China. Directed by Sonthar Gyal. In Tibetan, Chinese; English subtitles. 89 min. (See Saturday, August 23, 7:30 for description)
- 4:00        **The Valley of the Heroes.** 2013. China. Directed by Khashem Gyal. In Tibetan, Chinese; English subtitles. 53 min.  
**Kokonor.** 2005. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. In English, Tibetan, Mandarin; English subtitles. 50 min.  
(See Friday, August 29, 7:00 for description)
- 7:30        **Summer Pasture.** 2010. Tibet/USA. Directed by Lynn True, Nelson Walker, Tsering Perlo. (See Monday, August 25, 7:00 for description) In English, Tibetan; English subtitles. 85 minutes.

### **Sunday, August 31**

- 2:00        **Tantric Yogi.** 2005. China/France. Directed by Dorje Tsering Chenaktsang. In English, Tibetan; English subtitles. 50 min.  
**Embrace.** 2011. China/Germany/USA. Directed by Dan Smyer Yu, Pema Tashi. In English, Tibetan; English subtitles. 55 min.  
(See Thursday, August 28, 7:00 for description)
- 5:00        **The Son of a Herder.** 2014. China. Directed by Tashi Chopel. In Tibetan; English subtitles. 64 min. (See Thursday, August 28, 4:00 for description)