

**HBO® ANNOUNCES FINALISTS OF HBO ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN VISIONARIES SHORT FILM COMPETITION**

*Films to receive premiere at the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival ahead of their HBO debuts in May*

NEW YORK, NY – February 22, 2018 – HBO today announced the three finalists of HBO Asian Pacific American Visionaries, a short film competition that provides emerging directors of Asian and/or Pacific Islander descent the opportunity to showcase their work.

Filmmakers Maritte Go (“Remittance”), Huay-Bing Law (“June”), and Feng-I Fiona Roan (“Jiejie”) will have their shorts premiere at the 2018 Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival in May; where the first, second and third place winners will be announced.

HBO will debut the trio of films during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May on its on-demand and digital platforms (including HBO NOW®, HBO GO®, HBO On Demand® and affiliate portals).

For this year’s competition, directors were asked to explore the concept of “home” in creative and innovative ways.

As a result, the trio of films addresses a range of historic – and timely – issues of immigration,

racism and assimilation.

Judged by a panel of HBO executives, industry leaders, and fellow APA filmmakers, the jury also included representatives from the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival and the Coalition of Asian Pacifics in Entertainment (CAPE).

Launched in 2016, APA Visionaries was created to help further the dialogue about race, diversity and representation in Hollywood while also identifying new cinematic storytellers who offer unique perspectives of the Asian Pacific American experience.

### About the finalists

- **Maritte Go** (“Remittance”) is a Filipino-American filmmaker who attended USC as a graduate student with a Masters in Film and TV Production.

She is currently in pre-production to direct and write a horror anthology produced by Radio Silence.

Inspired by her immigrant family’s experiences, “Remittance” tells the story of a Filipino cruise worker who receives a call informing her that her son is in the hospital.

• **Huay-Bing Law** (“June”) is a native Texan whose narrative and documentary shorts have earned a Student Academy Award nomination and other notable honors.

He is currently pursuing his MFA in Film Production from the University of Texas at Austin.

Set on an American college campus during the 1960s, “June” chronicles the experience of a young Chinese woman as she attends her husband’s graduation.

• **Feng-I Fiona Roan** (“Jiejie”) is a writer/director born in Taipei, raised in Oregon and now living in Los Angeles, where she earned her directing MFA from the American Film Institute.

Prior to filmmaking, Feng-I was trained in classical Chinese Literature at National Taiwan University.

“Jiejie” is a portrait of two young sisters being raised by a single immigrant mother in Los Angeles in 1997.

“HBO is proud to not only be part of the dialogue about media diversity but also leading new conversations around it,” stated Jackie Gagne, VP Multicultural Marketing at HBO.

“With Asian Pacific American Visionaries, we are empowering communities through representation while celebrating great artistic talent.”

“In order for progress and change to be possible for Asian Americans in Hollywood, the major studios and networks must find ways to work together with our community,” said Francis Cullado, Executive Director of Visual Communications, the organization that produces the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival.

“The Asian Pacific American Visionaries program demonstrates HBO’s continued industry excellence and sets an example for other companies who are serious about diversity.”

“HBO is a network that continues to break new ground with both its award-winning programs and commitment to developing diverse talent,” said Michelle K. Sugihara, Executive Director of CAPE.

“Asian Pacific American Visionaries perfectly aligns with our organization’s core principles of creating new opportunities for APA artists and advancing culture through entertainment.”

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