

DIRECTOR'S SCREEN Project Launches

An initiative of the film community in collaboration with Extra Virgin, Pop Pictures and SF Cinema City present the **Director's Screen** Project, a new theatrical distribution outlet serving as a venue for showcasing the best and the brightest in independent and arthouse cinema from Thailand as well as around the world in an exclusive release at SF World Cinema, 7th floor CentralWorld.

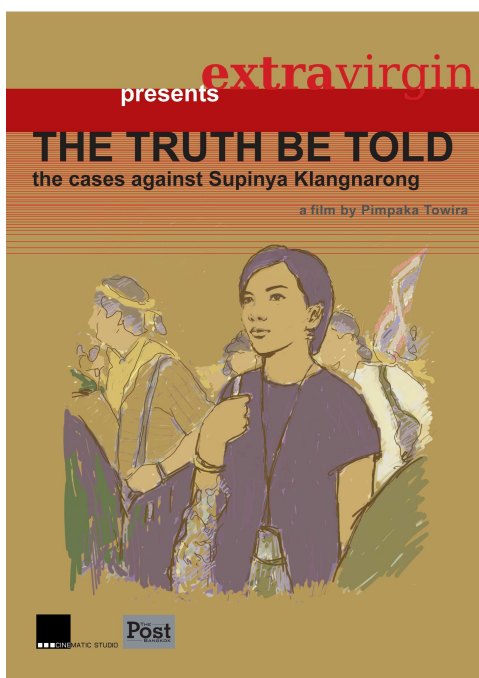
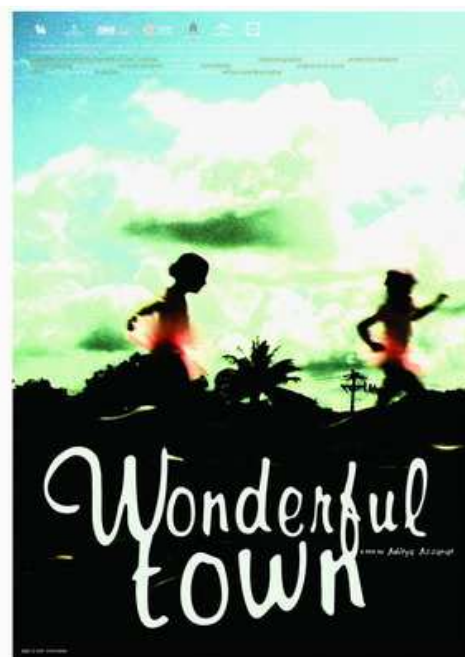
The project's official launch will take place in May 2008 with the releases of 2 Thai films. A debut feature by veteran shorts and music video director Aditya Assarat, **Wonderful Town** is the first feature film from Thailand to win the prestigious New Currents Award from the 2007 Pusan International Film Festival as well as the VPRO Tiger Award from the International Film Festival Rotterdam 2008, as well as a number of accolades from various festivals. An international critical acclaim, the film is set to be released in more than 10 territories worldwide.

Another film in the line-up, the second feature from Pimpaka Towira (**One Night Husband**) is the documentary **The Truth Be Told: The Cases Against Supinya Klangnarong**. Chronicling the life of Supinya Klangnarong, the Secretary-General of the Campaign for Popular Media Reform (CPMR), who in 2004 faced a huge defamation lawsuit from Shin Corporation – at the time belonging

to the family of former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, the film takes a deep look at the recent changes and development in Thai politics and society over the past few years, from the Thaksin administration to the 2006 coup d'état, as well as its aftermath.

Both films will get an exclusive release only at SF World, screening everyday at 7:30PM in a 4-week run each. **Wonderful Town** is set for the 15 May release, followed by **The Truth Be Told** on 29 May. Tickets will be on sale through the theatre's box office at regular price. During the course of the theatrical run, there will be special activities organized for audiences to meet with the filmmakers and cast & crew of both films.

More titles in the Director's Screen project for the second half of 2008 will be announced at a later stage.



For more information please contact:
Narisara Saisanguansat
Tel 086 412 2289
Fax 02-2167380-3 & 02-2193510-9 ext. 224
narisara@extravirginco.com

Wonderful Town

A film by **Aditya Assrat**, A Pop Pictures production
Drama, 92 minutes, Digital Video (HD) to 35mm., Colour, Dolby SR

Takua Pa is a small town in the South of Thailand. It is a town of sadness. Ever since the tsunami, people have lost their jobs. There is nothing to do every day. Young people ride motorcycles around in circles. Old people remember better times in the past.

One day a stranger comes to town. His name is Ton. He is an architect. He rents a room in a small hotel owned by Na, the town daughter. They begin to have a secret love affair but soon people start to whisper. The town has found their enemy now.

This film is about a love that grows where there is no more love, like a flower that grows in the dirt. And about a town that tries to destroy the beauty that it cannot have for itself. Can a town be wonderful again?



Starring
Produced by
Music
Written & Directed by

Anchalee Saisoontorn, Supphasit Kansen, Dul Yaambunying
Soros Sukhum, Jetnipith Teerakulchanyut
Koishi Shimizu, Zai Kuning
Aditya Assrat:

Short films *Motorcycle*
Waiting

Music Video Pru
Boyd Kosiyapong

Awards

New Currents Award, 2007 Pusan International Film Festival
VPRO Tiger Award, International Film Festival Rotterdam 2008
Special Jury Prize, 2008 Deauville Asian Film Festival
FIPRESCI Award, 2008 Hong Kong International Film Festival



Other festivals participation:

Berlin Film Festival (Forum), Göteborg Film Festival, New Directors/New Films (MoMA, New York), Sarajevo Film Festival, Edinburgh Film Festival, Thessaloniki Film Festival

The Truth Be Told: The Cases Against Supinya Klangnarong

A film by **Pimpaka Towira**, An Extra Virgin production
Documentary, 105 minutes, Digital, Colour, Stereo



A chronicle of the crucial moment in the life of Supinya Klangnarong, a Thai media activist and Secretary-General of the Campaign for Popular Media Reform (CPMR), in her fight against the 2003 defamation charges from Shin Corporation, the telecommunication giant owned at the time by the family of former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, following her published article which suggests a conflict of interest due to the government's beneficiary policies for the corporation. As a result, she faced both criminal and civil libel suits, threatening for 400 million Baht (11 million USD) and imprisonment.

Although the charges were later dropped in March 2006, this vicious lawsuit that had been haunting her life through this 3-year period has become a part of her, as well as serving as a political instrument over the course of the time. Does this victory of hers spark hope for the rest of us, that the freedom of speech may just help bringing about a change in the Thai society and politics?

Or is it just in our thought that it can change?

Produced and conceived by Pimpaka Towira (**One Night Husband**)

Main festivals participation: 37th International Film Festival Rotterdam
10th Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival
21st Singapore International Film Festival
12th Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival

