

SEPTEMBER

2015

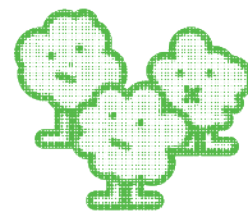
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ASIAN  
FILM  
SYMPOSIUM



# ASIAN FILM SYMPOSIUM

**OBJECTIFS**  
Centre for Photography and Film



After a hiatus of 6 years, Objectifs and The Substation are proud to announce the return of Asian Film Symposium (AFS). AFS showcases short films from partner countries in South-East Asia, where film programmers are invited to curate cutting-edge short films from their respective countries and share them with the local audience. In addition, through intimate dialogue sessions, AFS provides a vital platform for sharing and exchange among filmmakers, critics and programmers, encouraging dialogue between these key players in regional independent film industries, in the presence of an audience who will hear them debate and discuss pertinent topics that affect cinema in the region today.

This 2015 edition of AFS features the theme: Pop! Culture.

- Singapore:** Leong Puiyee & Vincent Quek  
(curators; Objectifs & The Substation, respectively)
- Cambodia:** Davy Chou  
(curator, filmmaker)
- Indonesia:** Varadila Nurdin  
(curator, film programmer from Minikino)
- Malaysia:** Tan Chui Mui  
(curator, producer and filmmaker)
- Philippines:** Shireen Seno  
(curator, filmmaker)
- Taiwan:** Ming-Jung Kuo  
(curator, film programmer from Taipei Film Festival)
- Thailand:** Sanchai Chotirosseranee  
(curator, film programmer from Thai Short Film and Video Festival)
- Vietnam:** Marcus Manh Cuong Vu  
(curator, filmmaker)

Their respective curators and a filmmaker will represent all countries featured in Asian Film Symposium. For more information, visit our official website:

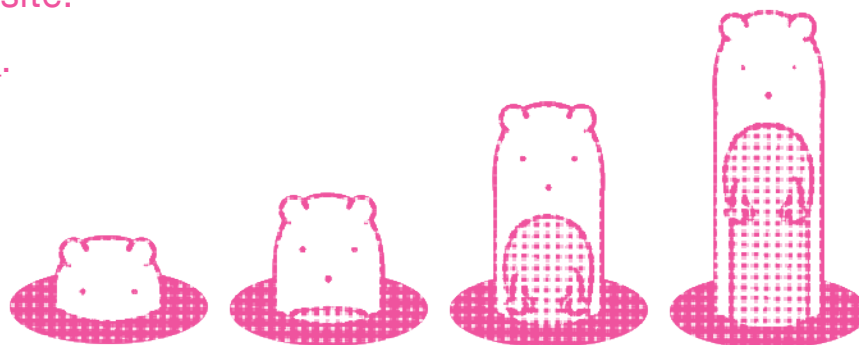
[www.objectifs.com.sg/afs2015](http://www.objectifs.com.sg/afs2015).

Established in 2003, Objectifs is a visual arts centre dedicated to promoting photography and film. Through our educational programmes, exhibitions, screenings, community outreach and developmental platforms, we aim to inspire and nurture artists, offer a vibrant space for learning and exchange, and cultivate new audiences.



**The Substation**  
A Home for the Arts

The Substation was founded in 1990, and is Singapore's first independent contemporary arts centre. Since its inception, The Substation has supported local and overseas artists by promoting research, experimentation and innovation in the arts, and aims to bring different artistic perspectives together in critical dialogue. It has worked with some of Singapore's most critically acclaimed artists, writers and intellectuals, and continues to work closely with young and emerging artists, supporting them and nurturing their growth through its core programmes and other means.



This event is also proudly sponsored by  
Kronenbourg 1664 and Cornerstone Wines.



Asian Film Symposium 2015 is supported  
by "Watch Local", an initiative under  
the Singapore Film Commission.





# COUNTRY IN FOCUS: VOICES FROM TAIWAN

**12 September  
Saturday  
Objectifs  
230pm to 430pm**

This year's Country-In-Focus is Taiwan. A special program curated by Taipei International Film Festival curator Kuo Ming-Jung will be presented on 12 September, Saturday, with the curator in attendance.



## INTOXICANT

**by John Hsu | 26 min | 2008**

A hacker named Intoxicant is threatening to destroy a famous Internet forum. While people are gathering in the system and expecting something to happen, six different users begin to suspect each other. When the countdown to annihilation begins, the chaos between trust and truth grows...



## SCUMBAG, PERVERT AND THE GIRL IN BETWEEN

**by Bruce Hwang Chen | 16 min | 2010**

A high school outcast tries to impress a girl by retrieving her stolen pair of P.E. shorts from a town pervert.



## ON HAPPINESS ROAD

**by Hsin-Yin Sung | 13 min | 2013**

Chi is a six-year-old little girl who lives on the Happiness Road with her family. She recently started attending school, but finds herself quite different from everyone and many things taught there are very strange...



## ROCK RABBIT

**by Miho Chen | 22 min | 2014**

A crazy groupie mom and an unsleeping baby girl meet the most popular but rotten rock 'n roll band, Rock Rabbit. They strike a song called "Rock 'n Roll Lullaby". You may feel scared, but behind the fear, it just lacks of a tiny little bit of love, and a little bit more adventure.



## ROWBOAT

**by C.J. Wang | 28 min | 2014**

Is love nothing but an illusory mix of memories and imagination? A boy meets a girl on Green Lake. Mesmerized by the beauty of the girl, the boy spares no effort in getting closer to her. However, what happens when the boy finally gets a moment alone with the girl?

# CAMBODIA



## KEP SECRET

**by Prum Seila | 13 min | 2012  
10 Sept, Thurs, 8pm to 10pm**

An improvised story set against the abandoned buildings of Kep, a coastal city for holiday makers in 1960s, *Kep Secret* explores the memory of these ruined homes through the eyes of a young boy. Re-imagining his playground for the first time, the boy relives through sound, the ghosts of excess and war.



## A FISTFUL OF PEBBLES

**by Somchanrith Chap | 7 min | 2014  
12 Sept, Sat, 11am to 1230pm**

A mysterious man finds himself in the muddy monsoon in a village terrorized by a local gangster.



## BODING

**by Kanitha Tith | 10 min | 2014  
13 Sept, Sun, 2pm to 330pm**

The White Building, built in 1963, is one of the symbols of New Khmer Architectural movement. Abandoned during the Khmer Rouge regime, families started re-settling in the building in the 80s. *Boding* is an invitation for the viewers to develop their own interactions with the space.



## CAMBODIA 2099

**by Davy Chou | 21 min | 2014  
12 Sept, Sat, 630pm to 8pm**

Phnom Penh, Cambodia. On Diamond Island, the country's pinnacle of modernity, two friends tell each other about the dreams they had the night before.



# INDONESIA



## INDIE, BUNG!

by Yuleo Rizky | 12 min | 2014  
11 Sept, Fri, 830pm to 10pm

In a side street tavern, two village youngsters discuss their plans to make a film. Soon, they realise that making a film is not as easy as they imagine, for it requires not only one’s imagination, but also courage and the ability to laugh at their own works.



## DINO

by Edward Gunawan | 15 min | 2013  
12 Sept, Sat, 11am to 1230pm

A single mother who works as a door-to-door encyclopedia seller must learn to adapt or face extinction in the advent of computers and the Internet.



## PENDEKAR KESEPIAN

by Yusron Fuadi | 24 min | 2013  
13 Sept, Sun, 2pm to 330pm

Recorded “live” for 24 minutes, can four cups of coffee, Clint Eastwood, and the parallel world answer mankind’s biggest question – “Are we alone in the universe?”



## PILEM PERTAMAKU

by Vincent Jose | 4 min | 2013  
12 Sept, Sat, 11am to 1230pm

This is the story of a five-year-old kid who experiences his first cinema-going experience with his parents.



## JAKARTARCK

by Ari Rusyadi | 16 min | 2011  
12 Sept, Sat, 630pm to 8pm

A short documentary film about the story behind the early scene of the fixed gear community and culture in Jakarta, Indonesia.

# MALAYSIA



## A GIFT

by Mallory Lee | 8 min | 2014  
10 Sept, Thurs, 8pm to 10pm

A romantic comedy set in the mid 1980s when RM2.50 can buy you a packet of fried noodle, fish balls, a soft drink and an ice stick. Love was simpler back then... or was it?



## ROZITA BINTI ROSLAN

by Taufiq Kamal bin Abd Rahman | 11 min | 2012  
12 Sept, Sat, 11am to 1230pm

Ilham plays out the scene when he first met Rozita in his mind. He relieves the memories as he deals with an identity/existential crisis. Set using the premise of love and relationship, *Rozita binti Roslan* tells a story of human attachment.



## SALVAJ

by John Cho | 12 min | 2014  
12 Sept, Sat, 630pm to 8pm

Ishak, an experienced police diver, contemplates the emotional perils of his vocation following the most challenging dive of his career.



## MACK

by Bradley Liew | 15 min | 2012  
13 Sept, Sun, 2pm to 330pm

Two low level assassins are assigned by their boss to aid the legendary killer Mack. Unfortunately for them, they start off their day late and everything goes downhill in a flurry of bodies and unlucky coincidences.



## FIND LOVE LET IT KILL

by Aidyl Abadi | 2 min | 2015  
13 Sept, Sun, 2pm to 330pm

An experimental piece about finding love, and letting it torture you.

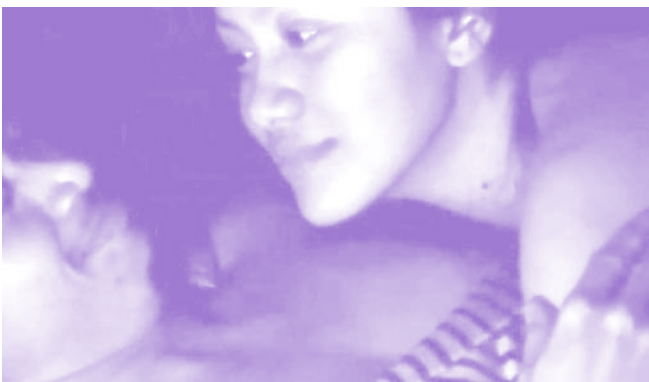


## STRENGTH

by Michael Chen | 14 min | 2013  
13 Sept, Sun, 4pm to 6pm

Michael has many roles; an actor, a producer, and even a kickboxing instructor. One day, he decides to join his first amateur MMA Fight Tournament much to the dismay of the people around him. This mockumentary pokes fun at this humbling experience he had.

# PHILIPPINES



## THE ENDLESS ROOM

by Emerson Reyes | 19 min | 2011  
10 Sept, Thurs, 8pm to 10pm

The whole story happens inside a room where the characters hide and are free to say and do whatever they want—with only the four walls as witnesses. This is a story about love. Maybe not.





## BLANK

by Jet Leyco | 15 min | 2012  
11 Sept, Fri, 830pm to 10pm

The film opens with images of a sorrowful young woman. The film concludes with images of a desperate young man fleeing into a jungle. In between, there are images that comprise a wealth of information, but there is still no clarity. Only the despair of the disappearance.



## I CAN'T SLEEP WITHOUT YOU BY MY SIDE

by Jade Castro | 8 min | 2010  
13 Sept, Sun, 2pm to 330pm

A young man writes a letter to his lover, about nocturnal troubles, loneliness, dead acquaintances, his ailing grandmother, noodles, testicles, and drug stores in this rambling comic snapshot of an ordinary person's ordinary concerns on the healthcare situation in the Philippines.



## WE DON'T CARE FOR DEMOCRACY, THIS IS WHAT WE WANT: LOVE AND HOPE AND ITS MANY FACES

by John Torres | 12 min | 2010  
13 Sept, Sun, 4pm to 6pm

Lover and mother country talk in bed. It begins with her dreaming that he cheated. She asks him about loyalty and a future together. She asks him to still her heart; she wonders about his eyes, that looked different in her dream. But he knows her too well. So lover speaks, mother country sleeps. Anthem, begin.



## TO SIOMAI LOVE

by Remton Zuasola | 26 min | 2009  
13 Sept, Sun, 4pm to 6pm

Deeply depressed and heartbroken, Marvin is forced by his brother to use a love potion so that his aching heart would be cured. While dining at a dumpling stall, Siomai of Tisa, he meets a pretty nursing student. After having a short conversation, he feels mysteriously drawn to her and thus tries to use the love potion to win her heart. Will the love potion work, or will their love take its course even without it?

## SINGAPORE



## MOVEABLE FEAST

by Jasmine Ng, Sandi Tan & Kelvin Tong |  
14 min | 1996  
10 Sept, Thurs, 8pm to 10pm

Food is the subject of this prizewinning short film at the Singapore International Film Festival. It chronicles a day in the life of a food lover from his breakfast in a coffee shop right up to his dinner in a fancy Chinese restaurant.



## FONZI

by Kirsten Tan | 24 min | 2007  
11 Sept, Fri, 830pm to 10pm

A world-within-world story, *Fonzi* is the tale of a movie character who, like Pinocchio, wants to be a real person. Except Fonzi takes it one step further, and believes herself real when she isn't. And unlike Pinocchio, (who had Disney and magic), Fonzi can never be real.



## ANCHOVIES

by Zulkifli Salleh | 22 min | 2014  
12 Sept, Sat, 11am to 1230pm

A boy watches a scary movie and becomes afraid of the sea. Problem is, he comes from a family of fishermen, and is expected to become a fisherman too. Will this spell the end of his traditional livelihood?



## BEANSPROUTS AND SALTED FISH

by Cheek K | 6 min | 1996  
12 Sept, Sat, 630pm to 8pm

A story about the unintentional lies and unthinking acts that grown-ups inflict upon children – and the sad humour of the consequences.



## THE STORY THAT I FORGOT TO TELL

by Nelson Yeo | 9 min | 2013  
13 Sept, Sun, 2pm to 330pm

Shot along the train tracks, roads and escalators in Japan, *The Story I Forgot to Tell* is an anthropological daydream revolving around the mythology of a man who steals people's dreams on the train.



## A GUIDE TO FLORA AND FAUNA OF THE WORLD

by Jow Zhi Wei | 18 min | 2014  
13 Sept, Sun, 4pm to 6pm

*A Guide to the Flora and Fauna of the World* is a documentary about Robert Zhao Renhui, a Singaporean photographer who has been exploring the relationship between humans and animals in his body of work produced through 'The Institute of Critical Zoologists'.



# THAILAND



## DELETED

by Nitaz Sinwattanakul | 17 min | 2013  
10 Sept, Thurs, 8pm to 10pm

Nick is starting her new life with a new family. Her husband passed away many years ago. She tries to erase all memory of her late husband but it all seems to be coming back to her...



## ENDLESSLY

by Sivaroj Kongsakul | 31 min | 2013  
11 Sept, Fri, 830pm to 10pm

*Endlessly* portrays a sentimental portrait of the relationship between a grandmother and her grandchild.



## NUNUI

by Chanya Hetayothin | 4 min | 2013  
12 Sept, Sat, 11am to 1230pm

Whilst searching for a way out, Nunui meets a companion.



## BREATHE

by Twatpong Tangsajjapoj | 10 min | 2012  
12 Sept, Sat, 11am to 1230pm

One can live just to survive or to accomplish one's dream.



## ISAN MARS

by Pramote Sangsorn | 12 min | 2013  
12 Sept, Sat, 630pm to 8pm

It's an experiment for Northeastern people in Thailand: they have to wear spacesuits and go to Mars for work.



## MYTH OF MODERNITY

by Chulayarnnon Siriphol | 16 min | 2014  
13 Sept, Sun, 4pm to 6pm

The ideal world of perfect goodness is a spiritual refuge for people nowadays. Unsurprisingly, some sects, new religions and political groups are growing.

# VIETNAM



## THE STORY OF ONES

by Pham Ngoc Lan | 10 min | 2011  
10 Sept, Thur, 8pm to 10pm

*The Story of Ones* gives a face and a sense of place to the unseen and offers a personal counterpoint to the officially sanctioned. Like entering a roomful of stories, the viewer steps into an unfamiliar space guided only by the sound of the Vietnamese state radio tuning in to lifestyle programming, call-in shows and radio dramas.



## BLOSSOM YOUR LIFE!

by Ta Nguyen Hiep | 6 min | 2014  
11 Sept, Fri, 830pm to 10pm

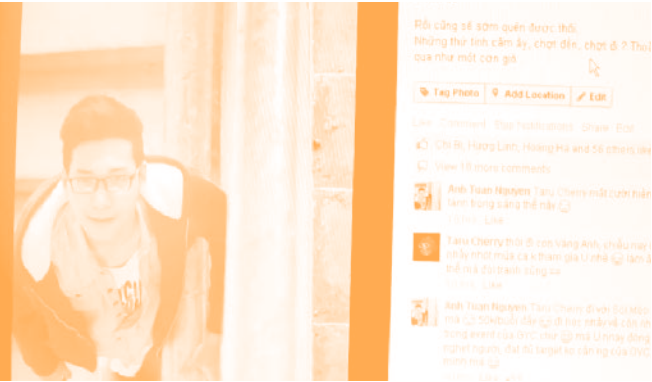
*Blossom Your Life!* follows a day in the life of different LGBT characters from Ho Chi Minh City who fight for their rights and acceptance in society. This call to being yourself and expressing oneself to the LGBT community has been increasingly recognised and accepted in Vietnam.



## ON DUTY WITH SHU QI

by Do Quoc Trung | 23 min | 2012  
12 Sept, Sat, 630pm to 8pm

*On Duty With Shu Qi* addresses the topic of sexual awakenings in teens. These initial contacts, whether surprising or daring, honest or cheeky, are only the foundation for two lonely individuals – a weird guy and an infamous hot girl in high school as they find their way to each other, in spite of everything.



## LIKE

by Vu Hoang Hai | 14 min | 2014  
13 Sept, Sun, 2pm to 330pm

The story of a university student who is addicted to Facebook.



## FEELING

by Luk Van | 16 min | 2012  
13 Sept, Sun, 4pm to 6pm

*Feeling* explores the loneliness of two teenage girls of the same age who lead two different lives. But their special friendship makes them value their lives more...



# 10/09

## THURSDAY

### OBJECTIFS

**Screening:**  
**8pm to 10pm**  
**81 min**

#### MOVEABLE FEAST

by Jasmine Ng, Kelvin Tong, Sandi Tan | 14 min | PG | Singapore

#### THE ENDLESS ROOM (WALANG KATAPUSANG KWARTO)

by Emerson Reyes | 19 min | PG13 | Philippines

#### KEP SECRET

by Prum Seila | 3 min | Cambodia

#### A GIFT

by Mallory Lee | 9 min | PG | Malaysia

#### DELETED

by Nitaz Sinwattanakul | 17 min | PG | Thailand

#### THE STORY OF ONES (CHUYỆN MỌI NHÀ)

by Pham Ngoc Lan | 10 min | Vietnam | PG

# 11/09

## FRIDAY

### THE SUBSTATION

**Dialogue Session:**  
**7pm to 8pm**

#### WHAT IS A SHORT FILM TODAY? RELOOKING CONTEXTS AND DEFINITIONS IN THE DISTRACTED AGE.

From web series to narrative music videos and experiential video art, the short film is undergoing evolutions to form, tone and genre. What do filmmakers and film programmers consider a “short film” at present, and has the shifting preference of consumption modes in the short film medium affected their work?

*\*Speakers TBA*

**Screening:**  
**830pm to 10pm**  
**87 min**

#### BLOSSOM YOUR LIFE! (HÃY CỨ SỐNG, HÃY CỨ YÊU!)

by Ta Nguyen Hiep | 6 min | Vietnam

#### FONZI

by Kirsten Tan | 24 min | PG | Singapore

#### INDIE BUNG

by Yuleo Rizky | 12 min | PG13 | Indonesia

#### BLANK (PATLANG)

by Jet Leyco | 15 min | PG13 | Philippines

#### ENDLESSLY

by Sivaroj Kongsakul | 31 min | Thailand

# 12/09

## SATURDAY

### OBJECTIFS

**Screening:**  
**11am to 1230pm**  
**73 min**

#### DINO

by Edward Gunawan | 15 min | PG | Indonesia

#### NUNUI

by Chanya Hetayothin | 4 min | G | Thailand

#### PILEM PERTAMAKU

by Vincent Jose | 4 min | PG | Indonesia

#### A FISTFUL OF PEBBLES

by Somchanrith Chap | 7 min | Cambodia

#### BREATHE

by Twatpong Tangsajjapoj | 10 min | Thailand

#### ROZITA BINTI ROSLAN

by Taufiq Kamal Bin Abd Rahman | 11 min | Malaysia

#### ANCHOVIES

by Zulkifli Salleh | 22 min | PG | Singapore

**Dialogue Session:**  
**1pm to 2pm**

#### INDEPENDENT CINEMA: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES TO GROWING AN AUDIENCE

What are some of the challenges film programmers and filmmakers face in fostering a national consciousness about independent film? In this dialogue, hear how film programmers and filmmakers from around the region nurture and sustain the presence of independent cinema in their country, as well as the choices they make in an effort to grow this audience.

*\*Speakers TBA*

**Screening:**  
**Voices from Taiwan**  
**230pm to 430pm**  
**105 min**

#### SCUMBAG, PERVERT AND THE GIRL IN BETWEEN

by Bruce Hwang Chen | 16 min | NC16

#### ON HAPPINESS ROAD

by Hsin-Yin Sung | 13 min | G

#### INTOXICANT

by John Hsu | 26 min | PG13

#### ROCK RABBIT

by Miho Chen | 22 min | R21

#### ROWBOAT

by C.J. Wang | 28 min

**Dialogue Session:**  
**5pm to 6pm**

#### GROWING UP: THE INFLUENCE OF POP CULTURE THROUGH FILMS

How has popular culture - music; films; fashion etc. - shaped the works of filmmakers and affected the decisions of film programmers? This dialogue will examine the overarching effects of mass-market culture across countries whose cultures may be disparate but their effects may not be so different.

*\*Speakers TBA*

**Screening:**  
**630pm to 8pm**  
**89 min**

#### CAMBODIA 2099

by Davy Chou | 21 min | PG | Cambodia

#### ISAN MARS

by Pramote Sangsorn | 12 min | PG | Thailand

#### JAKARTARCK

by Ari Rusyadi | 16 min | PG13 | Indonesia

#### ON DUTY WITH SHU QI

by Do Quoc Trung | 23 min | PG13 | Vietnam

#### SALVAJ

by John Cho | 12 min | Malaysia

#### BEANSPROUTS AND SALTED FISH

by CheeK | 6 min | PG | Singapore

# 13/09

## SUNDAY

### THE SUBSTATION

**2pm to 330pm**  
**82 min**

#### LIKE

by Vu Hoang Hai | 14 min | PG | Vietnam

#### THE STORY THAT I FORGOT TO TELL

by Nelson Yeo | 9 min | PG | Singapore

#### I CAN'T SLEEP WITHOUT YOU BY MY SIDE (DI AKO MAKATULOG KASI WALA KA SA TABI KO)

by Jade Castro | 8 min | PG13 | Philippines

#### FIND LOVE, LET IT KILL

by Aidyl Abadi | 2 min | PG13 | Malaysia

#### MACK

by Bradley Liew | 16 min | PG13 | Malaysia

#### BODING

by Kanitha Tith | 10 min | G | Cambodia

#### PENDEKAR KESEPIAN

by Yusron Fuadi | 24 min | NC16 | Indonesia

**Screening:**  
**4PM to 6PM**  
**113 min**

#### FEELING

by Luk Van | 16 min | PG | Vietnam

#### A GUIDE TO FLORA AND FAUNA OF THE WORLD

by Jow Zhi Wei | 18 min | G | Singapore

#### WE DON'T CARE FOR DEMOCRACY, THIS IS WHAT WE WANT: LOVE AND HOPE AND ITS MANY FACES (WALA KAMING PAKIALAM SA DEMOKRASYA. ANG GUSTO NAMIN: PAG- IBIG, PAG-ASA AT ANG KAMUKHA NITO)

by John Torres | 12 min | PG | Philippines

#### STRENGTH

by Michael Chen | 13 min | PG | Malaysia

#### TO SIOMAI LOVE

by Remton Zuasola | 26 min | PG | Philippines

#### MYTH OF MODERNITY

by Chulayarnnon Siriphol | 16 min | Thailand

### TICKETING

\$10 regular price,

\$7 concession for  
each screening session.

Free admission to all dialogue sessions.

Tickets sold at  
**asianfilmsymposium10sep.peatix.com**

### EVENT VENUES

#### OBJECTIFS

**155 Middle Rd,**  
**Singapore 188977**

**TEL**  
6336 2957

**WEBSITE**  
[www.objectifs.com.sg](http://www.objectifs.com.sg)

**EMAIL**  
[info@objectifs.com.sg](mailto:info@objectifs.com.sg)

**MRT**  
Bras Basah MRT Station (CC2)  
Exit E (approx. 5 min walk)

Bugis MRT Station (EW12/DT14)  
Exit C (approx 10 min walk)

#### THE SUBSTATION

**45 Armenian Street,**  
**Singapore 179936**

**TEL**  
6337 7535

**WEBSITE**  
[www.substation.org](http://www.substation.org)

**EMAIL**  
[vincent@substation.org](mailto:vincent@substation.org)

**MRT**  
City Hall (NS25, EW13)  
Exit B

Bras Basah (CC2)  
Exit B and C



# POP!

THE WEASEL  
GUM  
SICLE  
BUBBLE WRAP  
CORN  
SODA  
FILM  
CULTURE

ASIAN  
FILM  
SYMPOSIUM

Deemed as the 'culture of the people', pop culture encompasses the collection of ideals and ideas influenced mainly by the mass media. From fashion, television, language, music and films, these elements very much make up the contemporary aspects of our lives. Pop Culture is everywhere; we talk about it, we read about it and in some ways, we are obsessed about it. How does pop culture affect or influence our society? Through these short films, the notion of pop culture will be explored from an Asian perspective.

For more information, visit  
[objectifs.com.sg/afs2015](http://objectifs.com.sg/afs2015)

