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# Asia-Europe connections through the eyes of young filmmakers

Singapore - Over 100 young filmmakers from about 30 countries took part in an international short films contest organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation and NYU Tisch School of the Arts Asia. Five winners will be flown to Singapore to receive prizes from Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong on 17 May 2012.

To mark the occasion of its 15th anniversary, the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) organised the Asia-Europe Short Films Contest, inviting young filmmakers, film enthusiasts and students from 46 [ASEM](#) countries to express their ideas of Asia-Europe relations through a short, up-to-3 minute long film. The films cover topics such as culture, arts, environment, education and individual relationships.

“Film is a wonderful medium to showcase the beauty and diversity of cultures, while highlighting the similarities to bring two regions closer together” shared Mr Michel Burke, Chair of the Department of Graduate Film at NYU Tisch School of the Arts Asia. He is one of the members of the jury, for this Contest, which also included Mr Daniel Yun, founder and CEO of “Homerun Asia”, a Singapore-based movie company, and Ms Natacha Devillers, producer of film company Les Petites Lumières. “It was a challenge for the jury members to choose the winning films from so many good submissions,” Mr Burke added.

The jury selected four short films that best communicate and represent the Asia-Europe connections theme. The fifth winner was chosen through public voting on Facebook.

“Thanks to the ability to communicate and express our cultures through online and multimedia technologies, the stereotypes created through centuries of misinformation are disappearing, along with the gap between these two regions” said Mr Pedro Miguel Resende from Portugal, one of the five winners.

**Mr Resende, Ms Ibtisem Ben Nassib** (Malaysia), **Mr Lorenzo Ciani** (Italy), **Mr Riyanto Lasmana** (Indonesia) and **Mr David Saputro Sugianto** (Indonesia) are the five awardees who will be part of a two-day filmmaking workshop at NYU Tisch School of the Arts Asia while in Singapore. The winner of the [ASEM](#) prize, Mr Resende, will also receive SGD 5,000.

All short films can be viewed at [www.asef.org/index.php/winners](http://www.asef.org/index.php/winners)

## ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

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### Asia-Europe Foundation

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), which currently comprises of 46 member states plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat ([www.aseminfoboard.org](http://www.aseminfoboard.org)) ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since engaged over 17,000 direct participants through more than 550 projects in the realms of economy and society, environment, education, public health, arts and culture, human rights and governance, and inter-communal dialogue. [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)

In 2012, ASEF is commemorating its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and invites everyone to take part in celebrating **Connected Histories, Shared Future**.

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### New York University Tisch School of the Arts Asia

In 2007, New York University Tisch School of the Arts Asia opened in Singapore. It is the university's first degree-granting campus outside New York City. Already, the world's leading festivals and industry leaders have recognized the work of the school's alumni and students with honors and awards. [www.tischasia.nyu.edu.sg](http://www.tischasia.nyu.edu.sg)

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### National Library Board Singapore (NLB)

The National Library Board (NLB) nurtures Readers for Life, Learning Communities and a Knowledgeable Nation. Through the National Library and its network of 24 public libraries, NLB promotes reading, learning and information literacy. By forging strategic partnerships to cultivate knowledge sharing, libraries also encourage appreciation and awareness of Singapore's history through its wide range of programmes and collection of Singapore and regional content. It also uses innovative technology to provide access to its digital library resources and services. NLB was established on 1 September 1995 as a statutory board under the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA). [www.nlb.gov.sg](http://www.nlb.gov.sg)