



# Press Release

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## **Asia's Biggest Movie Stars Descend on The Venetian Macao** *The Venetian Theatre hosts Asian Film Awards with glittering ceremony*

**(Macao, March 25, 2015)** – The red carpet was rolled out at The Venetian Macao as the biggest names in the Asian movie business were in town for the **9<sup>th</sup> Asian Film Awards**. Sponsored by Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao and The Venetian<sup>®</sup> Macao and with Cotai Water Jet as the Official Ferry Operator, the awards came to The Venetian Macao for the first time, and only the second time in the city, on March 25.

The red carpet event was held in the Main Lobby of The Venetian Macao and attracted hundreds of adoring fans who screamed and cheered for their favourite actors and actresses while the camera flashes from the assembled media dazzled onlookers.

Famous names who attended the ceremony included Aaron Kwok, Bae Doo-na, Liao Fan, Miyazawa Rie, Nakatani Miki, Cho Jin-woong, Jermaine Jackson, Ann Hui, Ivana Wong, Anthony Wong, Satoh Takeru, Ikewaki Chizuru, Doh Kyung-soo, Lee Lieh, Eddie Cheung, Han Ye-ri, Wallace Ho, Cheryl Yang and Infinite.

As one of the most prestigious film award ceremonies in world cinema, the **Asian Film Awards** routinely attracts the best and brightest from the movie business in Asia. This year was no different. With over 1,000 eligible films from 34 countries, narrowing the field down to just 14 category winners was a tall order for the 14-person jury, but eventually the winners were chosen, setting the stage for a fabulous night of glitz and glamour at The Venetian Theatre.

Led by Mabel Cheung with celebrity guest judge Aaron Kwok, the jury awarded 14 categories, including Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress, Best Newcomer, Best Screenwriter, Best Cinematographer, Best Production Designer, Best Composer, Best Editor, Best Visual Effects and Best Costume Designer.

“It is a great honour for Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao and The Venetian Macao to sponsor and host events of this magnitude,” said Ciaran Carruthers, Senior Vice President

and Director of Venetian and Plaza Operations, Sands China Ltd.. “The Asian Film Awards are yet again another example of Sands China’s multi-tiered entertainment strategy in action with these kinds of events attracting high-profile celebrities to Macao. With the associated global audience for events of this nature, that showcases Macao as a world-class entertainment destination.”

Founded by the Hong Kong International Film Festival, Busan International Film Festival and Tokyo International Film Festival in late 2013, the AFA Academy aims to promote, develop and enrich Asian cinema, its talents and audiences by organizing the AFA and a diversity of other programmes across Asia through working closely with film, arts and culture partners from around the world.

The Venetian Theatre, one of the most luxurious entertainment venues in greater China, is a key aspect in Sands China’s strategy to bring the best international entertainment to Macao and has played host to movie premieres like Zhang Ziyi’s “The Crossing I” and “My Lucky Star,” Chow Yun-Fat’s “From Vegas to Macau” as well as renowned movie award ceremonies and festivals including the China Music Awards and the Asia Pacific Film Festival. The venue has also hosted performances by some of the Asia’s and the world’s biggest music superstars and performing groups, including Alicia Keys, David Tao, Big Four, the National Ballet of China, Ballet Manila, The Philadelphia Orchestra as well as Broadway musical “CATS.”

The diversity of entertainment provided by Sands China Ltd. ranges from global superstar performances and world-class sports spectacles to family-friendly attractions, allowing locals and visitors of all ages a chance to enjoy some of the world’s greatest entertainment acts.



Satoh Takeru (left)



Nakatani Miki



Aaron Kwok



Bae Doo-na



Infinite



Liao Fan



Alex Law and Mabel  
Cheung



Jermaine Jackson



Ann Hui

**Photo caption:** Celebrities on the red carpet at the 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Film Awards at The Venetian Macao Wednesday.



**Photo caption:** Benjamin Toh, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director of Sands China Ltd. and his wife on the red carpet at the 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Film Awards at The Venetian Macao Wednesday.

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**Entertainment at Sands China Ltd. Resorts**

Sands China Ltd. has as a clear vision to establish Macao as Asia's top entertainment destination.

The 15,000-seat Cotai Arena is the only venue in Asia ranked in *Pollstar's* Top 100 Worldwide Arena Venues based on ticket sales. It is the top entertainment destination in southern China, hosting the world's and the region's biggest names in music, sports and awards shows. Superstars frequently choose the venue as the starting point of their Asian tours.

The 1800-seat, multi-purpose Venetian Theatre is one of the most luxurious entertainment venues in greater China. Featuring ushers in black-tie, champagne service, gourmet food and beverage items and other unique, premium amenities, it offers an intimate, luxurious and exclusive venue experience. The Venetian Theatre is playing a key role in bringing the best in international and Chinese entertainment to Macao, with a luxury theatre experience like no other in the region.

The 650-seat Sands Theatre regularly features internationally-renowned singers, performers and artists of the highest calibre. From traditional Chinese-costumed dancers to modern performances, and from singing troupes to contemporary bands, everything from Western rock to Cantonese pop is covered.

With an unbeatable diversity, the entertainment offering of Sands China Ltd. is ushering in a new era of entertainment in Macao.

For information about upcoming shows and events, visit [www.venetianmacao.com/entertainment.html](http://www.venetianmacao.com/entertainment.html).