

Sight & Sound announces **PARASITE** director Bong Joon Ho as first ever guest editor

- **Palme d'Or-winning and Oscar-nominated director guest edits the March issue 2020 of Sight & Sound available from 3 February**
 - **Bong Joon Ho names his 20 filmmakers to watch**
 - **Storyboards from award-winning film PARASITE**



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Sight & Sound, the BFI's international film magazine, today announces the Palme d'Or-winning director **Bong Joon Ho** as the magazine's **first ever guest editor**. Bong will oversee the magazine's March 2020 issue, **available digitally on 3 February** and on **newsstands 6 February**. This coincides with the UK release of his latest film, **PARASITE**, in cinemas from Friday 7 February which this week received six Academy Award nominations. The issue will include a **reveal of storyboards** from the award-winning **PARASITE**, a **career profile**, a personal tribute from Bong Joon Ho to South Korean director **Kim Kiyong** and his selection of the **20 most exciting up and coming directors to watch** from around the world.

Director Bong Joon Ho says *"I'm very happy to work with Sight & Sound, it's a strange feeling because when I studied cinema around 30 years ago, I used to read Sight & Sound magazine a lot. I read it with my Film Society members. Sometimes, we even got illegally copied issues and read them. So, it's very meaningful for me and I'm greatly honoured to work on this issue as a guest editor."*

Sight & Sound editor in chief Mike Williams says *"Working with Bong Joon Ho on the upcoming issue of Sight & Sound has been a great way of seeing one of cinema's most creative minds at work. The global success of his latest film PARASITE is well deserved – as are all his awards and nominations – and I'm excited to welcome him as the first ever guest editor of Sight & Sound. We've been great champions of Director Bong's films and vision throughout his career, so to collaborate with him on this issue that explores his inspirations and creative process is a proud moment that says as much about the history and legacy of Sight & Sound as it does about our exciting future. Gamsahamnida, Director Bong!"*

Bong both wrote the screenplay and directed **PARASITE**, which has received critical acclaim since it was unanimously voted to win the Palme d'Or after its world premiere at the 2019 Cannes Film Festival. Bong is the first Korean filmmaker to be awarded the prestigious accolade. The film received *Best Motion Picture – Foreign Language* at the

2020 Golden Globes and has gone on to four BAFTA and six Academy Award nominations, including *Best Director*. It has made history by being the first South Korean film to be nominated for *Best Film* and *Best International Film* at the Academy Awards.

Internationally-renowned Korean cinema expert Tony Rayns profiles Bong in the March issue and takes a retrospective look at the filmmaker's career. Bong's second feature, *MEMORIES OF MURDER* (2003), received international critical acclaim and was featured in the December 2003 issue of *Sight & Sound*. The magazine has continued a long association with Bong, first interviewing him in September 2004 and covering his subsequent work including *THE HOST* (2006) and *SNOWPIERCER* (2013), both of which are among the highest-grossing films of all time in South Korea.

Also in the issue, Bong handpicks 20 upcoming filmmakers to watch, who have each directed two features or fewer. These include **Mati Diop**, whose feature directorial debut **ATLANTICS** (2019) competed in the Cannes Film Festival official competition, losing to *PARASITE*, but received the Grand Prix. Bong also selects fellow South Korean director **Yoon Ga-eun** whose films explore stories of young children and youth. **Jordan Peele** (*GET OUT*, US) is also championed by Bong as a director to watch. Similarly to Bong, Peele's work explores current social themes with an undercurrent of both humour and horror.

Bong puts a spotlight on Korean director **Kim Kiyoung**, whose films have had a huge influence on his work and who he considers to be the true auteur of Korean cinema. Director Kiyoung is best known for his intensely psychosexual and melodramatic horror films such as *THE HOUSEMAID* (1960) the first of the "Housemaid trilogy" which was followed by *WOMAN OF FIRE* (1971) and *WOMAN OF FIRE '82* (1982).

Sight & Sound's March cover features exclusive portraits of the director taken by British photographer **Dean Chalkley**, who has produced iconic images of significant cultural figures at the intersection of music, art and fashion over the past two decades.

PARASITE was previewed at BFI Southbank on 11 December 2019 and will be on extended run at BFI Southbank from 14 February 2020. In 2009, the BFI Southbank held a retrospective of Bong's work in partnership with the London Korean Film Festival.

Watch Bong Joon Ho discuss his appointment as guest editor available to view and embed [here](#).

– ENDS –

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About the BFI

The BFI is the UK's lead organisation for film, television and the moving image. It is a cultural charity that:

- Curates and presents the greatest international public programme of World Cinema for audiences; in cinemas, at festivals and online
- Cares for the BFI National Archive – the most significant film and television archive in the world
- Actively seeks out and supports the next generation of filmmakers
- Works with Government and industry to make the UK the most creatively exciting and prosperous place to make film internationally

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter. The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger CBE.

***** PICTURE DESK *****

A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting *Sight & Sound* can be found via the link below:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/h61qywsn2jezpff/AACNkn_Fey2NrZEWKPTZA7nYa?dl=0

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