



## Taipa Village Cultural Association Proudly Presents "Degustation - Films by Maxim Bessmertny"

Featuring the award-winning narrative film "Tricycle Thief" and other recent productions





Maxim Bessmertny (left); Scene from the award-winning "Tricycle Thief" (right)

Macau, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 – Taipa Village Cultural Association takes great pleasure in presenting the first solo exhibition and screening of short films by Maxim Bessmertny, a Russia-born, Macau-based film director, screenwriter and producer. The exhibition will take place at Taipa Village Art Space, showcasing Maxim's most prominent film productions, including "Tricycle Thief" (2014), "The Great Debt" (2016), "Death of a Parrot" (2017) and "Sampan" (2017), complemented by poster panels from his films.

Maxim completed his Master of Fine Arts in Film Production at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. In 2013, he founded Pontus Maximus Productions, an independent film company, and co-produced, wrote and directed his narrative short film "Tricycle Thief". The film made its world premiere at the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival, won the Gold Award for best short film in the 2015 Kodak Student Scholarship Programme, and has screened in Macau, Hong Kong and the Middle East.

The 18-minute short film tells the story of a tricycle driver who embarks on a desperate hunt for money and adventure in one night. It showcases Macau's colour-saturated late-night landscape of dark streets, back alleys and neon lights, explored by the driver in a cautionary tale of need and greed.





Expanding the scope of his work, Maxim recently partnered with a Macau company to produce 'What's Your Art?', a mini-documentary series focused on eccentric characters living in Macau. He is currently developing his first feature film as director.

"The exhibition title "Degustation" embodies a tasting menu that truly reflects the essence of flavours, saturated colours, freshness, smells and ingredients that can be found only in Macau." says João Ó, President of the Executive Board of Taipa Village Cultural Association. "Maxim's multicultural and multilingual exposure, combined with his prolific knowledge of music, literature, history and art, lead to a unique worldview evident in his storytelling. This film collection manifests a clear evolution of his technical skills and audacity in the productions while keeping his style and vision genuine: a combination of a wicked sense of humour, human desire, a narrative that revolves around a character and an object and, finally, a surrealistic take on the subject matter."

"Degustation" is a stirring addition to the art and cultural scene in Taipa Village. It embraces the artistic initiatives transforming Taipa Village into a lively centre for cultural and creative endeavour that sustains Macau's colourful history and unique heritage, and contributes to the development of non-gaming tourism in the territory. As a versatile venue dedicated to showcasing a wide range of media, Taipa Village Art Space promotes the artistic diversity in Macau, acting as a hotspot for fostering local talent with the aim of supporting Macau's cultural and creative industries.

**Exhibition period:** 18<sup>th</sup> April - 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018

**Opening hours:** 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm (Tuesday to Sunday)

**Venue:** Taipa Village Art Space, 10 Rua dos Clerigos, Taipa, Macau

Artist: Maxim Bessmertny

Media: Films and movie posters

**Admission:** Free

## **About Taipa Village Cultural Association**

Taipa Village Cultural Association was established in 2016 as a non-profit association comprised of representatives from both local community and wider Macau. The association aims to highlight the uniqueness of Taipa Village's heritage by raising awareness of its attractions and cementing its position as a distinctive community that benefits all of Macau.

Numerous initiatives are planned to preserve, enrich and cement the village as a tourist and cultural destination, including a diverse range of artistic and cultural attractions that will allow visitors and future generations to enjoy a unique experience of the authentic Macau.





## About Taipa Village

Located in an historic enclave on Taipa Island, Taipa Village was originally inhabited by fishermen – a heritage that lives on today in its quaint village street layout and evocative, pastel-hued shop houses, nestled alongside colonial churches and Chinese temples. The village, with its rich history, offers an inspiring, East-meets-West alternative to Macau's casinos, and is a must-go destination for visitors and locals alike.

www.taipavillagemacau.org.mo

## For more information and images, please contact:

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