

ACADEMY
MUSEUM

BONG JUN HO

DIRECTOR

INSPIRATION

ABOUT

With his daring themes and dark humor, South Korean writer, director, and producer Bong Joon Ho continues to earn global acclaim for his innovative storytelling. ***Director's Inspiration: Bong Joon Ho*** celebrates the Academy Award-winning filmmaker in the context of the social, cultural, and political forces that shape his unique body of work.

It highlights key moments in the director's life and career, from his early comics and short films through international breakthroughs *The Host* (2006) and *Parasite* (2019).

With unprecedented access to Bong's personal archive of captivating memorabilia, props, and production materials, this exhibition invites visitors to explore his creative process, as well as the films that most inspire him.



KEY EXPERIENCES

LAYOUT

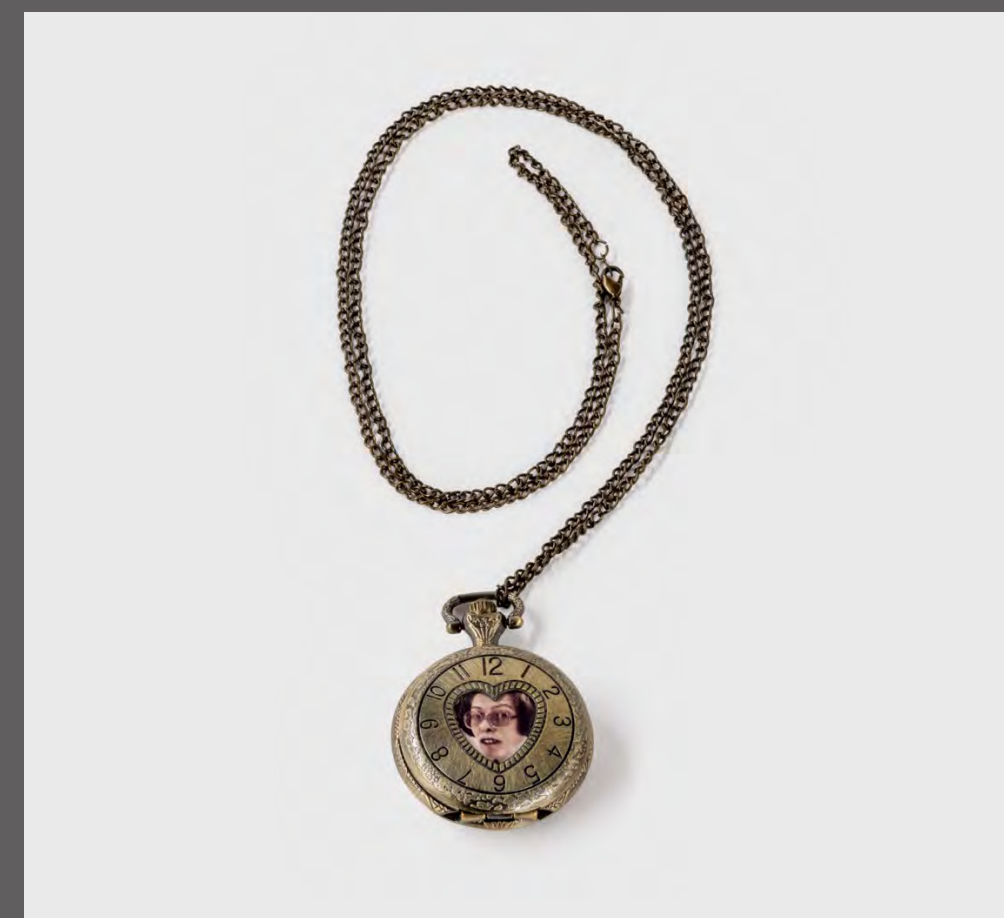
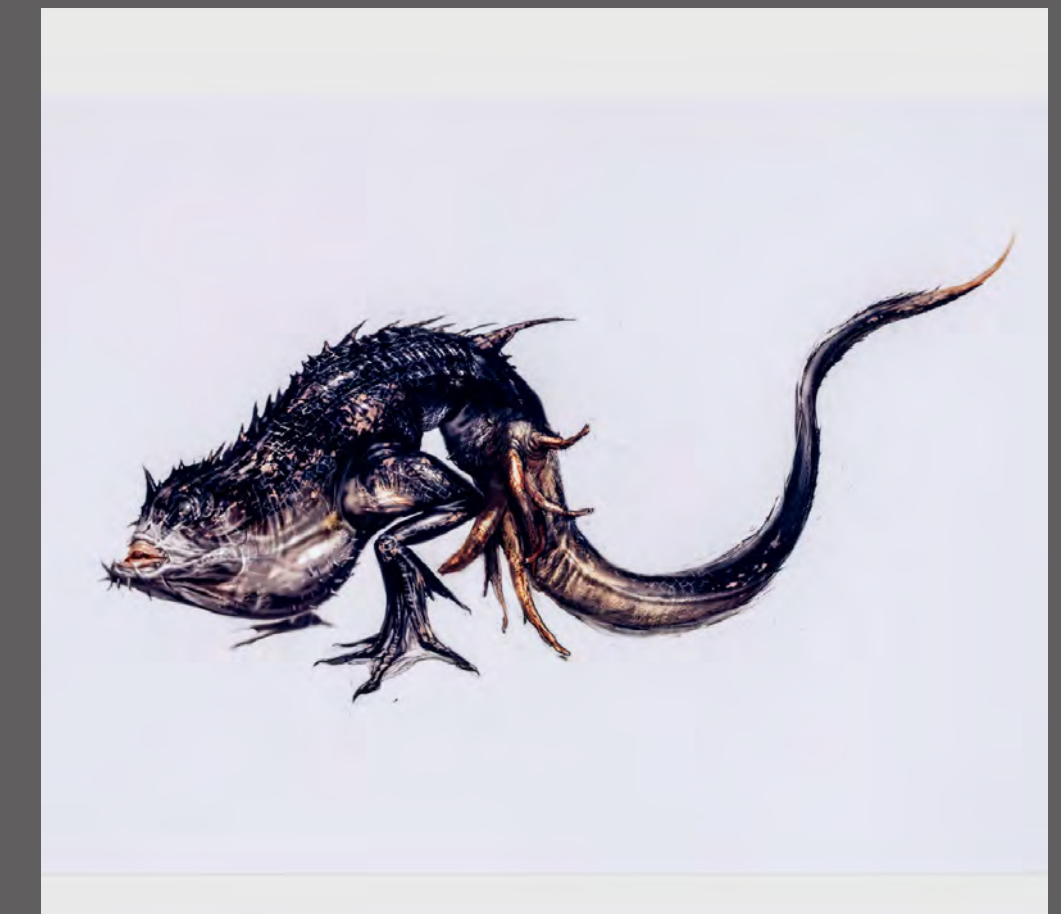
In the first three main areas, the exhibition uncovers Bong Joon Ho's early work, highlights his inspirations, and explores his filmography through never-before-seen production materials. A final gallery immerses guests in a reconstruction of his creative workspace.

FILM EXCERPTS

Bong's films provide insights into society's complexities and subvert typical Hollywood conventions with dark humor, sudden shifts in tone, and genre mixing. The exhibition features two media pieces: the first, a montage of his short and feature-length films, takes a kaleidoscopic approach to capture mood through sequences that parallel, connect, or rhyme; the second compares his meticulously drawn storyboards to their corresponding sequences in the finished film.

PERSONAL ARCHIVES

Posters, sketches, storyboards, models, and rough drafts from his personal collection reveal Bong Joon Ho's artistic methods, while authentic props from featured films forge a deeper connection between viewers and his stories.



EXHIBITION SECTIONS

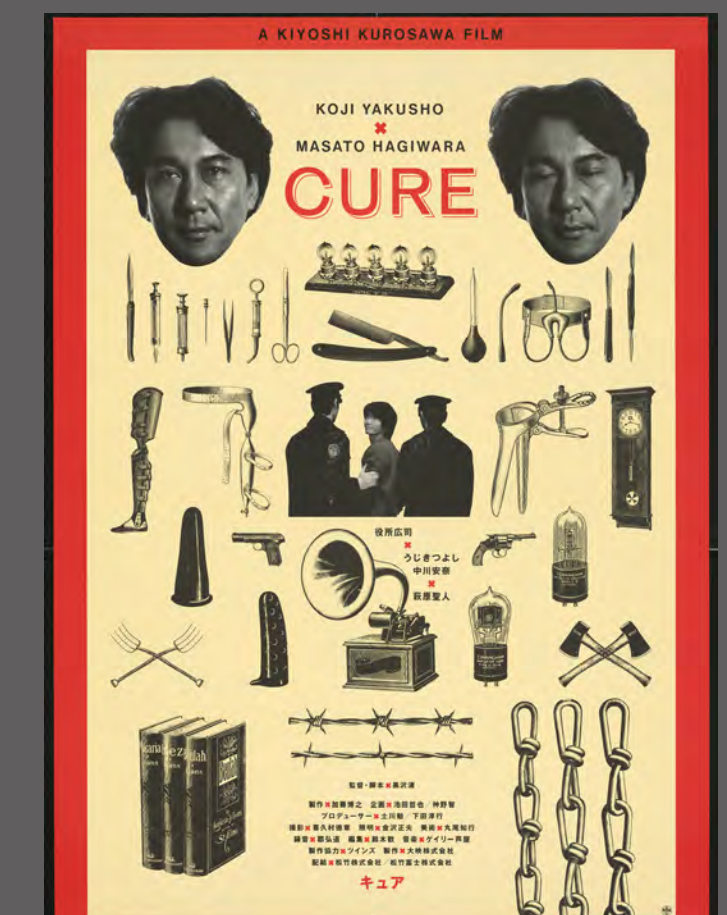
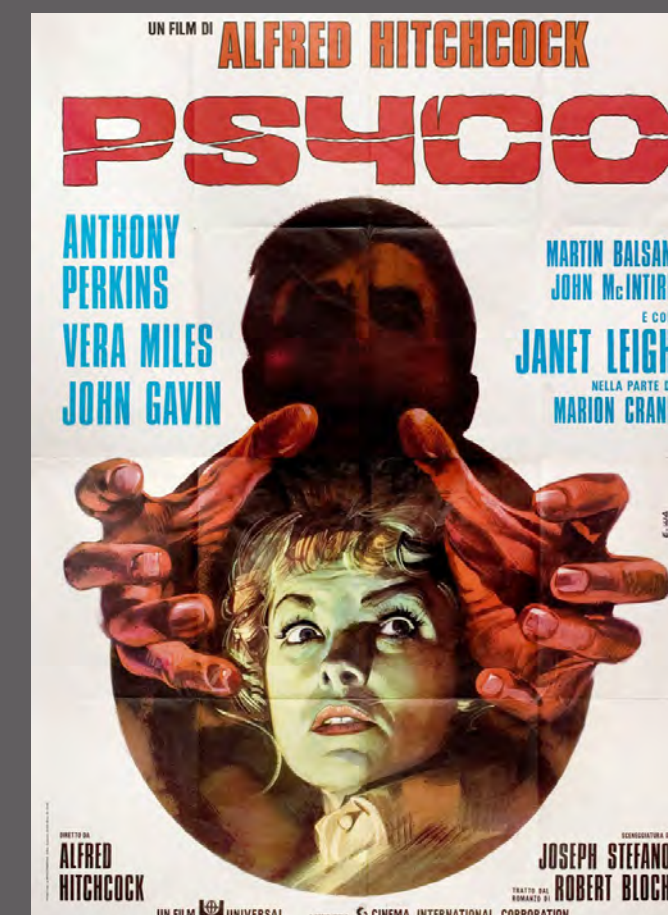
1. INTRODUCTION & FORMATIVE YEARS

Bong Joon Ho's work has sparked important conversations about social and political issues. This section opens on visceral moments from Bong's films in a projected montage. Visitors then journey through his formative university years, musing on his political comics, storyboards, and classic film analyses.



2. INFLUENCES & INSPIRATION

A striking collection of rare film posters showcases 20 directors and films that profoundly influenced Bong's career, ranging from Alfred Hitchcock and Shohei Imamura to Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg.



EXHIBITION SECTIONS

3. FILMOGRAPHY IN CONTEXT

While Bong's international popularity and impact are undeniable, his films are often described as unapologetically Korean. This section provides context for the director's films within the cultural landscape from which he originated. Props, sketchbooks, renderings, and models highlight Bong's distinctive working style.

4. THE DIRECTOR'S CREATIVE WORKSPACE

An immersive recreation of Bong's office allows exhibit-goers to peer into the filmmaker's creative process. Visitors encounter a fascinating wall of storyboards, a bookshelf filled with personally meaningful objects, and his work table, which is featured in a key scene in *Snowpiercer* (2013). A compelling original video piece compares storyboards side-by-side with shots from the finished films.

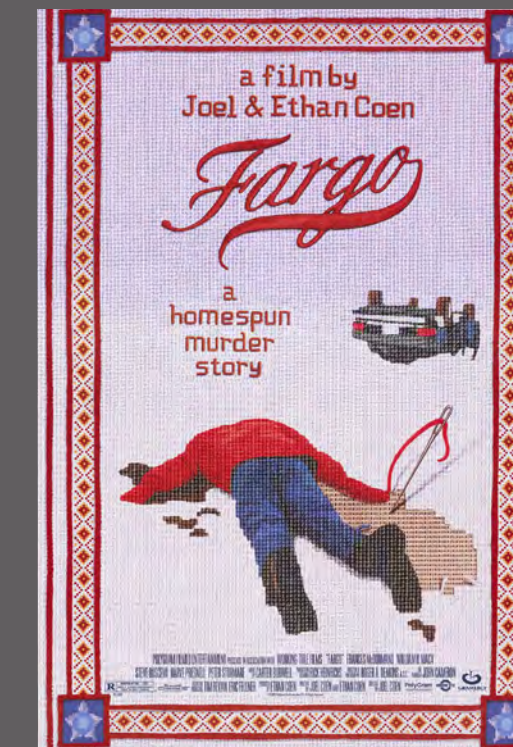


FILM PROGRAMS

Two specially curated screening series accompany the exhibition. The first includes Bong Joon Ho's rarely-seen short films *White Man* (1994), *Incoherence* (1994), and *Tokyo!* (2008), along with his seven feature-length films, *Barking Dogs Never Bite* (2000), *Memories of Murder* (2003), *The Host* (2006), *Mother* (2009), *Snowpiercer* (2013), *Okja* (2017), and *Parasite* (2019).

The second series of screenings presents films that significantly shaped Bong's work, including suspenseful masterpieces like *Psycho* (1960), *The Wages of Fear* (1953), *The Housemaid* (1960), *The Thing* (1982), and *Fargo* (1996),

These film programs are available for a modest administration fee. Venues are responsible for all arrangements, including licensing and fees.



BONG TOUR INFO

TOUR DATES: On view at the Academy Museum from
March 23, 2025 – January 10, 2027
Venue 1 – Winter/Spring 2027
Venue 2 – Summer 2027
Venue 3 – Fall/Winter 2027
Each tour slot is approximately 4 months.

GALLERY SPACE: Approximately 3,000 sq ft / 280 sq meters

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