
meta
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FILM CATALOG 2026
SOIKA'26

The Ngilngig Festival

The Ngilngig Asian Fantastic Film Festival – Davao (NgAFFF), or simply the Ngilngig Festival, is a homegrown film festival based in Davao City, Philippines. It brings together filmmakers from across the Philippines and neighboring Asian countries to celebrate Asian cinema that explores the many meanings and expressions of the ngilngig.

In Bisaya, ngilngig evokes the fantastic, the magical, the eerie, and the macabre—the kind of feeling that sends shivers down your spine or leaves you with an unsettling sense of fascination.

The Ngilngig Festival will hold its film screenings from October 24–28, 2026, at the Cinematheque Centre Davao in Davao City, Philippines.





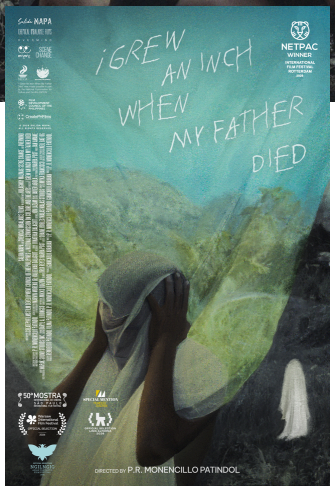
About Metamorphosis

Now in its 10th festival edition, the Ngilngig Asian Fantastic Film Festival embraces its 2026 theme, Metamorphosis, marking a decade of transformation and celebration of the ngilngig and fantastic cinema — from intimate regional voices to cross-cultural exchanges that continues to reshape how we see ourselves and the “Other.”

Artworks by Banina x Soika Vomiter

OPENING FILM





I Grew an Inch When My Father Died

by P.R. Monencillo Patindol

73 min | Queer/Coming-of-Age/Drama | Philippines | 2026

ASIAN PREMIERE

Synopsis:

In a remote village in Leyte, Philippines—two brothers, Kenken and Ge, navigate life in the aftermath of their father's murder.

Kenken has stopped talking since he witnessed the deadly stabbing of his father. Instead, he confides in a mysterious, unseen entity who offers him escape to the supernatural realm. Ge, Kenken's older brother, struggles to reconcile with his best friend, Ricor—the son of the murderer. He dreams of starting anew in the city, working hard so he could earn enough to move to Manila.

Meanwhile, Ricor seeks forgiveness from Ge and his family but is haunted by the fear that he will become like his father.

7 PM Oct 24 Sat Cinematheque Centre Davao



Out of Eden (Ako Ay May Lobo)
by Siege Ledesma
15 min | Sci-Fi Animated Drama | Quezon City | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
In search of deliverance in a post-apocalyptic Philippines, a distraught mother takes her reluctant daughter on a secret pilgrimage to partake in their god-king's divine ascension.



The Wanderer
by Gwai Lou
18 min | Sci-Fi/Drama | Malaysia | 2025
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
In a post-nuclear jungle where silence and ruins reign, a lone scavenger haunted by her past stumbles upon an enslaved boy. Their unlikely bond sparks a flicker of humanity in a world long thought dead.



Kara: The Burning Woman (Si Kara: Ang Babaye nga Nagdaba-daba)
by Dale
20 min | Sci-Fi/Drama | Valladolid, Negros Occidental | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE
Amidst killings in the countryside, residents develop deadly antibodies, rendering their secretions fatal to outsiders, while in the city, a woman named Kara experiences an extreme rise in body temperature.



Boiling Point (真的不烫) Zhen De Bu Tang
by Ze Ying
13 min | Drama/Comedy | China | 2025
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
A bar regular is forced to prove he can drink boiling water, but after a freak accident, he unexpectedly rises to citywide fame as the legendary "Hot Water Master."

It Feels Really Good to ** in the Mansion** (Manami guid man mag **** sa Mansion)
by Seb Valdez and Trini Garcia
15 min | Drama | Sagay City | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE

Caloy, a young payroll runner, witnesses a haciendero couple remain untouched as the workers' community is wiped out on the night a catastrophe strikes Sagay.



I'll Leave You Words (전하지 못한 말)
by Anwar Johari Ho
24 min | Drama/Romance | Malaysia/S. Korea | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE

In Kuala Lumpur, a Cambodian escort confronts her own hidden past while sharing tales of love and loss with her nomadic, emotionally burdened clients.



Bleeding Summer (염하)
by Jeemin Baik
17 min | Romance, Thriller, Horror | Seoul, S. Korea | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE

Yeom, a high school student with a condition that prevents his blood from clotting, meets Junha, a transfer student numb to pain, and is gradually drawn into her unsettling world.



Ice (Yelo)
by Gab Rosique
20 min | Bomba Thriller | Davao City/Quezon City | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE

In the cramped heat of a thrift shop in Cubao, the air is thick with the unspoken desires of Jessa and Candy. But when a foreigner arrives with the promise of America, their lives are led astray.

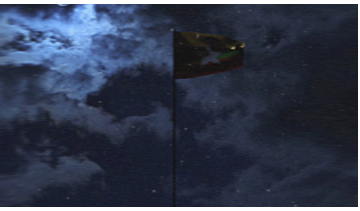




memorare
by Pia Velonza
15 min | Horror/Drama | Quezon City | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
memorare tells the story of Maia, a Mother Mary devotee who seems haunted by the Virgin Mother she idolizes. The evidence lies in archival footage; the recorder is unknown.



Memories don't end in disappearance (Hindi Nawawala sa Pagkawala ang mga Alaala)
by Emmanuel Pamaylaon
19 min | Magical Realism/Drama | Davao de Oro/Sultan Kudarat | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
In a mist-shrouded mountain range, two young recordists search fragments of memory buried in static, silence, and soil. As they gather stories erased by conflict, an intimate resistance takes shape: quiet, tender, and defiant in the face of forgetting.



A Metamorphosis (အတိုးဆုံးလေညှင်း)
by Lin Htet Aung
17 min | Experimental | Myanmar | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE
In the houses, after parting, Mothers were made up of tears. Sons were transformed into empty glass cups. And the lullabies became a curse. The film examines the suffering and resilience of the Burmese people by using the distinct political elements that have floated for several years on the ocean of politi- cal opera under repetitive military dictatorships in Myanmar.



Pretend You're My Girlfriend
by Ylac Provido
13 min | Horror/Thriller | Davao City | 2026
WORLD PREMIERE
Mark, a young man grieving over his girlfriend's death, creates an AI persona of her to have closure. However, as the AI persona begins to say things that sound too familiar to him he– slowly realizes he might be speaking to someone from the other side.

FEATURE FILM





Stinker (Sasyq)

by Yerden Telemissov

94 min | Sci-Fi/Drama/Comedy | Kazakhstan | 2025

PHILIPPINE PREMIERE

Synopsis:

As the district administration prepares for the arrival of high-ranking officials, local alcoholic Sadyk Ospanovich takes on problems of intergalactic proportions. Two large-scale events collide, leading to inevitable conflict. Caught in the middle are Nadya, a weary shopkeeper, and Baur, a naive police officer.

8 PM Oct 25 Sun Cinematheque Centre Davao



Everyone Like... (Semua Orang Suka)
by Kent Tan
5 min | Horror/Supernatural/Folk Talks | Malaysia | 2026
WORLD PREMIERE
Desperate to be liked by everyone, a lonely man changes himself to fit every expectation. But as he gains acceptance, he slowly loses his identity until the stranger everyone loves is no longer him. In the end, the greatest horror is becoming nobody at all.



The Old Man and The Grave
by Prabhat Gurung
6 min | Horror/Western | Nepal/S. Korea | 2025
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
Set in late 19th century Korea, in a desolate cemetery, an old Gravedigger faces a life-threatening situation when a Dead man comes back to life from inside the coffin.



Kentucky Gazaople
by Omar Rammal
22 min | Dark Comedy/Dramedy | Jordan | 2025
WORLD PREMIERE
In besieged Gaza; where the existence of Kentucky only lives through legend- Anwar turns the craving of the masses into a successful smuggling venture whilst single handedly deeping an emotional wound between him and his father.



Once Upon a Mango Tree (আম গাছের বাসিন্দা)
by Sambit Dattachaudhuri
20 min | Drama/Folklore/Environmental | India | 2026
ASIAN PREMIERE
A man must choose between cutting down or preserving a large mango tree that threatens to fall on his house. In a tumultuous state of indecisiveness, he is confronted by two birds living in the tree who have a connection to his late father.



Monkey
by Aries C. Ferrer
20 min | Experimental/Documentary | Solano/Diffun/Quezon City | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
A child: Dog! GHOST? and— tooth, aching continuously...



Lost (Kasaag)
by Jay-R Salazar
23 min | Horror | Cebu City | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
In the search of a missing friend, a teenage boy falls into a space of surreal strangeness where he has to decide whether to keep looking or to save himself.

Garlic (Ahos)
by Isabella Villarojo
3 min | Folk Horror/Drama | Cebu City | 2026
WORLD PREMIERE

Hunted in her own home by an unseen entity, a woman ingests an ancestral remedy to uncover the creature's identity, and, in the process, a new truth about her body.



Veiled (Nagmanto)
by Melver Ritz L. Gomez
20 min | Folk Thriller | Ilocos Norte | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE

Maryana goes to Nagmanto to document devotees of a mysterious veiled figure believed to have turned into stone, but her journey is disrupted when her camera runs out of battery, leaving her between recorded truth and unseen reality.



The Nest Above the Watchtower (Ang Pugad sa Ibabaw kang Bantayan)
by Mark Joseph "Bob" Perez
16 min | Action/Fantasy | Guimbal, Iloilo | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE

When a mysterious warrior sows conflict and threatens the peace of their land, a Christian nun and a Muslim young man must unite their faith, courage, and powers to prove that unity is far stronger than division.



Spirit Ally (Surog)
by Joel Escobar
13 min | Horror | Miagao, Iloilo | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE

*A healer calls upon an unseen ally to protect her daughter through a folklore ritual called *Batak Dungan*, invoking a *Surog* to keep her safe—until something unseen begins to answer.*



The Betta Fish (Umpan)
by Nelson Lau
14 min | Psychological Horror/Thriller | Malaysia | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE

After a boy goes missing in a peaceful yet superstitious fishing village, a teenager begins to experience haunting visions, forcing him to question his sanity.





A Very Straight Neck
by Neo Sora
10 min | Drama | Japan | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE
After waking with excruciating neck pain, a woman descends into a surreal odyssey of fragmented memories, haunting dreams, and the relentless challenges of simply moving.



All my Friends are Static
by Migo Matas
19 min | Horror/Arthouse Horror | Taytay Rizal | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
Desperate for viral content, Roxane enters a funeral-home morgue with her editor and friend, Clarence, only to discover he never told Jun their shoot required a corpse. She briefly seals Clarence in a body bag but releases him when he panics. Left alone, Roxane refuses to leave empty-handed and zips herself inside, surrendering to her obsession.



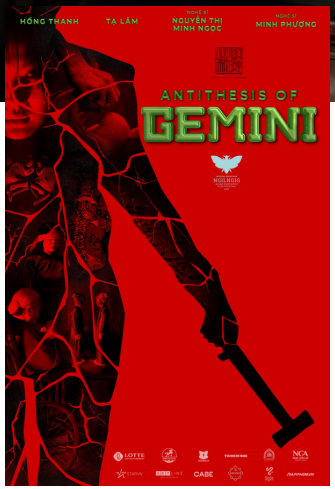
The Embalmer, the Madman, and the Corpse (Ang Embalsamador, Baliw, at Bangkay)
by Jasper Tan
20 min | Horror/Thriller | Manila | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE
In a lifeless morgue, an embalmer is consumed by a strange desire to secretly taste corpses he prepares, searching for something beyond the ordinary. His morbid obsession spirals when he's sent to retrieve a body—only to discover that the corpse is his own.



Arcade (오락실)
by Seo Won-cheol
8 min | Thriller/Horror | S. Korea | 2026
WORLD PREMIERE
Minjun awakens in an unknown space and is forced to play an arcade game where every loss costs him a finger.

FEATURE FILM





Antithesis of Gemini
(Quỷ Tha Ma Bắt: Thai Chiêu Tài)

by Trần Nhân Kiên

104 min | Horror/Folklore/Thriller | Viet Nam | 2025

PHILIPPINE PREMIERE

Synopsis:

Born frail in a pair of twins, Nhơn is deemed expendable and buried alive as a child when disease strikes. He survives through a forbidden power, carrying with him an inherited trauma rooted in an Asian patriarchal belief: only the strong deserve to live. As his family perishes and Nhơn rises from poverty into wealth, he believes money, status, and a "worthy" wife will finally legitimize his existence. But in a society obsessed with lineage and masculine dominance, he remains an outsider.

When his empire collapses, Nhơn turns to dark rituals to conceive a child believed to bring fortune, imposing the same brutal expectations onto the next generation. Love becomes sacrifice, fatherhood turns into violence, and survival itself is weaponized. In breaking this cursed cycle, Nhơn must face a devastating truth: a life born solely to fulfill others' desires may never truly be free.

6 PM Oct 26 Mon Cinematheque Centre Davao



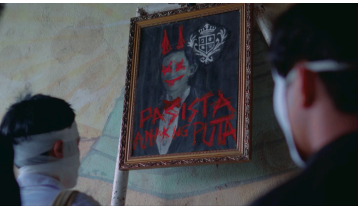
Cockroach
by Jay Borilla
16 min | Social Commentary | Quezon City | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
A working student bustles through scorching Manila, pushed to a cycle of exhaustion as the disparities of a distant world of capitalist excess kindle a common tenderness.



Hey, Hey, Take Care! (Hoy, Hoy, Ingat!)
by Norvin de los Santos
20 min | Social Dramedy/Magic Realism | Quezon City | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
Grief-striken in urban poor's hell, a child eager for viral fame and his beautiful, terminally-ill brother embark on a rescue mission to take back a beloved family jeepney in order to survive.



Our Mother Mary
by Matthew Gunawan
3 min | Horror/Coming of Age | Singapore/USA | 2026
ASIAN PREMIERE
A prefect follows a delinquent into the woods to a small clearing to indulge in sin, while a strange statue of Mother Mary watches over their every move.



Bandage Poetry
by Ian Alfaras
20 min | Dystopian/Drama | Butuan City | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
In a fear-ruled dystopian nation in the 1970s, Ele, a university paperboy, turns an ordinary day into an act of playful defiance.

Multo
by Coleman Weimer
17 min | Horror | USA/Philippines | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
As American missionaries move into a house in the Philippines, their cleaning lady discovers an unsettling presence from the past.



Urban Jungle (Aspaltong Lasang)
by Xander Delola
19 min | Experimental | Davao | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
As Davao rapidly urbanizes, Dong navigates the city as it turns into an urban jungle—slowly consuming him.



Southwest Corner
by Zachary Yap
12 min | Comedy/Drama | Singapore | 2025
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
On a windy day leading to Chinese New Year, a divorced mother turned a feng shui master, blending movement, songs, and rituals to help her hopeless 30-year-old son find a wife.

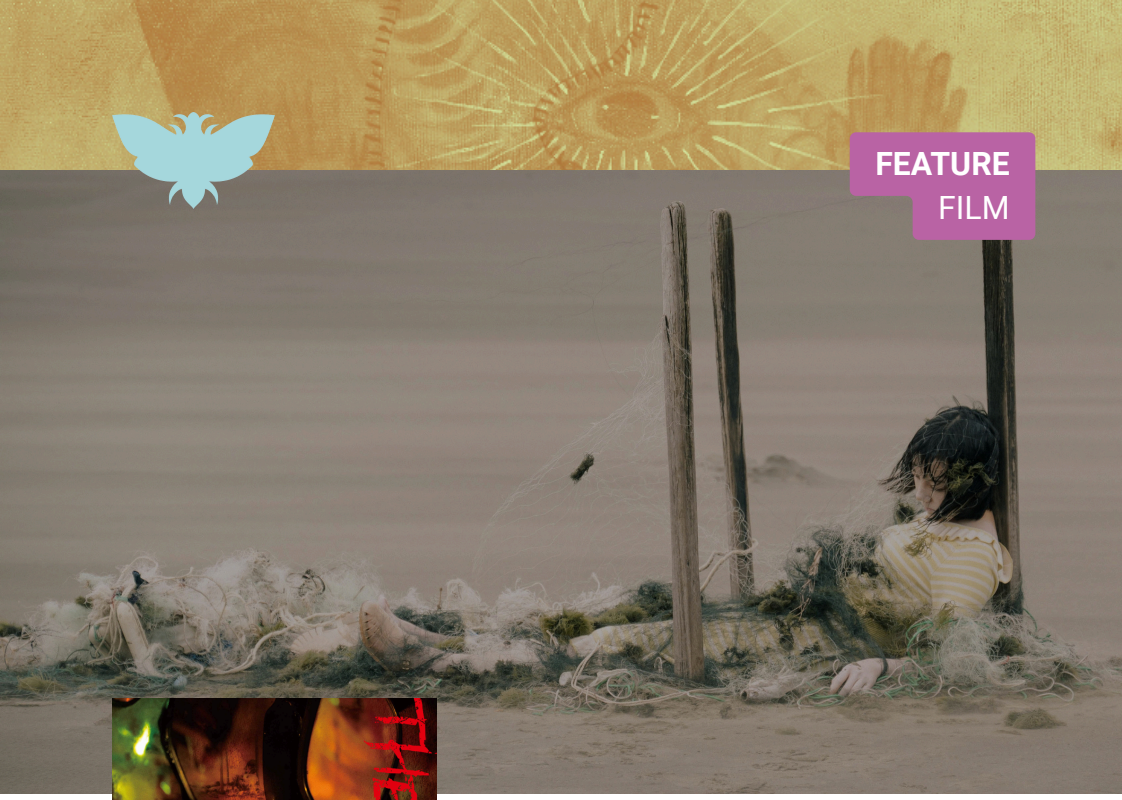


Lip Sync Assassin
by Jon Galvez
20 min | Drama/Thriller | Quezon City | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE
A fabulous drag queen moonlights as a hired killer and receives her new target that tests how far she can go to support her loved ones.



3 PM Oct 27 Tue Cinematheque Centre Davao

FEATURE
FILM





The Curse (ザ・カース / Za Kāsu)

by Kenichi Ugana

95 min | Horror/Mystery/Thriller | Japan/Taiwan | 2025

PHILIPPINE PREMIERE

Synopsis:

Riko (25), a receptionist at a trendy salon in the city, lives a quiet life in the city, sharing an apartment with her friend Airi. One day, Riko notices eerie changes in the social media posts of her Taiwanese friend Shufen, who starts uploading cryptic videos. Around the same time, a disfigured corpse washes ashore in Taiwan. When Riko's attempts to contact Shufen fail, she teams up with her ex-boyfriend Jiahao to investigate, only to discover that Shufen died six months ago. However, her social media continues to post disturbing messages. Soon, supernatural occurrences plague Riko and Airi, leading to Airi's horrifying death. Desperate for answers, Riko heads to Taiwan with Jiahao and Shufen's sister Huijun to uncover the terrifying truth.

DIMENSIONS (Set B)

Ngilngig Shorts

End of Beginning
by J.D Velasco
7 min | Experimental | City of General Trias | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
After waking up with no memory of his past, a man pieces together his life through archival photos and footage of the places he's been, uncovering fragments of the identities he once lived as he confronts the relentless passage of time.



Night Ticket Seller (សំបុត្រកុនវេនយប់)
by Peter Chan
18 min | Psychological Horror | Cambodia | 2025
ASIAN PREMIERE
On her first night at a cinema, a young ticket seller encounters a series of strange customers. She has to figure out which one of them is not human to give him or her a free ticket.



A Soil A Culture A River A People (又见炊烟) You Jian Chui Yan
by Viv Li
14 min | Psychological Horror | China/Germany | 2025
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
In a dystopian future where borders between countries are indefinitely closed, a replica of Hannover becomes the only way to experience Western culture. Citizen Yu roams around this nostalgic yet eerie town built by the memories of the past. What does he really see?



Nothing to Report (특이사항 없음)
by Park Chehong
17 min | Thriller/Horror | S. Korea | 2026
WORLD PREMIERE
Yuna, a social worker, impulsively kills an elderly man who had been harassing her and conceals what she has done.



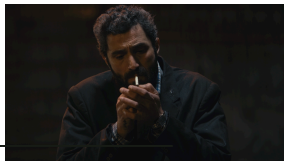
Shroud Ghost (Lutao)
by Michael Compoc
21 min | Apocalyptic Folk Horror | Maco, Davao de Oro | 2026
DAVAO PREMIERE
When a fisherman disturbs the grave of a mysterious corpse, a remote Muslim village is plagued by a terrifying outbreak tied to the ancient belief of Lutao, forcing its people to confront their hidden sins, fears, and buried darkness.



The Water Fairy (Memori Air)
by Imam Syafi'i
11 min | Psychological–Mystical Drama | Indonesia | 2025
ASIAN PREMIERE
Traumatized by witnessing the death of a close friend, a child keeps returning to the spring, seeking a way to free himself from guilt, grief, and accusations.



Fin
by Ward Kayyal
5 min | Drama | Palestine | 2025
ASIAN PREMIERE
A man walks the winding streets of Haifa alone at night. As he tries to light a cigarette in vain, he is met by something rather unexpected.





Ali (Али)
by Adnan Al Rajeev
15 min | Drama | Bangladesh | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE
In a coastal town, women are not allowed to sing. A teenager joins a singing competition for a chance to move to the city, while hiding his true voice in a sinister way.



The Skies are Weeping (Lumuluha ang Langit)
by Jean Louise Javier
20 min | Eco-Drama | San Juan, Batangas | 2026
WORLD PREMIERE
In the wake of twin typhoons, Gloring and Roy carry loss and rebuild as they await the next storm.



A Gentle Breeze (အတိုးဆုံးလေညှင်း)
by Lin Htet Aung
24 min | Drama | Myanmar | 2026
ASIAN PREMIERE
Storm, wind, air, a gentle breeze.



The Vanishing Fireflies (Nagahanaw na mga Aninipot)
by JP Corton
8 min | Childrens-Animation | Ormoc City, Leyte | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE
In the aftermath of Typhoon Yolanda in Tabango, Leyte, young Russell clings to a single firefly for comfort as the storm shatters his world. When the fireflies that once lit his nights begin to disappear, Russell must brave the darkness to find a new light of hope in the face of overwhelming loss.

The Debtor's Mother (Người mẹ của con nợ)
by Le Thien Trung
16 min | Dark Comedy,/Drama | Viet Nam | 2025
WORLD PREMIERE

A debt collector who is drowning in his own debts goes to collect money from his debtor, only to find him dead. Just then, the debtor's mother comes home



We Will Follow The Wind
by Demon Wong
20 min | Drama/Youth | China | 2025
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE

In a world plagued by violence and poverty, runaway teen Rat survives through theft with his companions. On the eve of a typhoon, betrayal strikes. Fueled by rage, the boys turn on each other, until the storm forces them to confront the fragility of their home and themselves.



Hyena
by Altay Ulan Yang
21 min | Drama/Youth | USA, China | 2025
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE

In an isolated castle, students prepare for a life-changing examination. As anticipation builds to a fever pitch, a storm strikes. Trapped within crumbling walls, their academic sanctuary becomes a prison, and minds begin to break.



Rotten Pleasure (Bangkai Nafsu)
by by Azzam Fi Rullah (Woyzeck)
16 min | Dark Comedy,/Drama | Indonesia | 2025
DAVAO PREMIERE

Thea is aroused by the genital decay! Juna is happy to let his genitals rot! Everything was done in order to marry the satan!



CLOSING FILM





The Mothering (Mag-iina)

by Giancarlo Abrahan

105 min | Horror/Drama | Philippines | 2026

MINDANAO PREMIERE

Synopsis:

Anj returns to her family's ancestral home as the 40th day of her estranged father's passing draws near — the moment his soul is said to finally ascend from the earthly realm. The house has been suspended in grief and madness, and three days back is enough to remind her why she left, why she must leave at once — and why she may never escape.

In Mag-iina — The Mothering — the reunion of three generations of women peels back a love that has always lived closer to evil than any of them were willing to name.



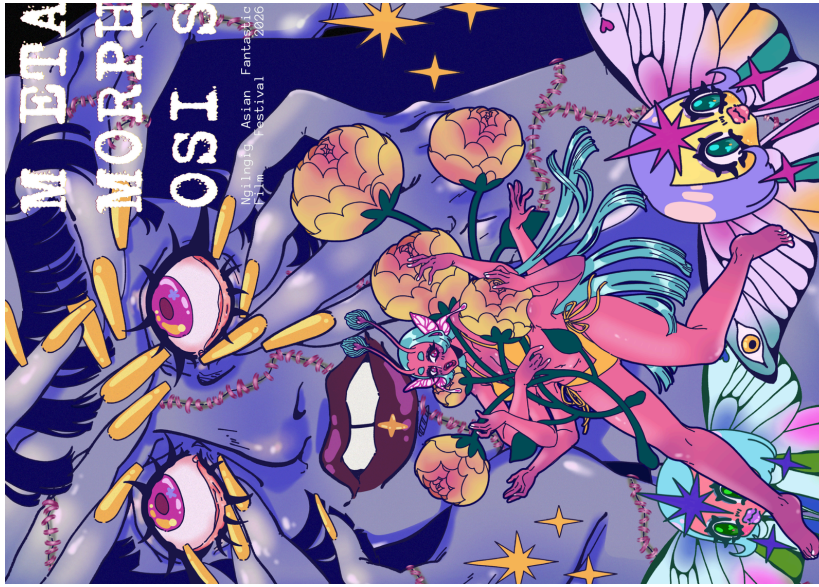
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Artworks by Banina x Soika Vomiter

Ngilngig
Asian Fantastic
Film Festival

2026 Oct 24-28 DAVAO

PASALIDAHAY

NgAFFF 2026 is programmed and organized by Pasalidahay, Inc.
in partnership with Film Development Council of the Philippines, The Film Academy of the Philippines, Davao City Office for Culture and the Arts, The Japan Foundation, Manila, Aputure Aputure Philippines, Sony Philippines, and sponsored by The Commons MTS, Micromedia Productions, Corner House Productions, Timewrap Film Productions, Holodeck Productions, Alberto's Pizza, Almeja Azul - LYR Beach Resort, and Hyde Entertainment

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