

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **DENDAM PONTIANAK SET TO HAUNT CINEMAS FROM 12 SEPTEMBER**

**PETALING JAYA, 3 SEPTEMBER 2019** – *Dendam Pontianak*, starring top stars Nur Fazura and Remy Ishak will be theatrically released on 12 September 2019 in Malaysia. Produced by Singapore’s Tiger Tiger Pictures, this feature film is distributed locally by Primeworks Studios.

Co-written and co-directed by Glen Goei and Gavin Yap, *Dendam Pontianak* is about a newly married couple, who’s life is shaken by the arrival of a vengeful Pontianak, forcing them down a dark path of betrayal, witchcraft and murder.

The Pontianak in Southeast Asian mythos refers to the vengeful spirit of a pregnant woman who died during childbirth. It is widely known as one of the most gruesome horror tales in Asian folklore but at its core, *Dendam Pontianak* is a tragic tale of love and loss. Portrayed on a unique Asian canvas, audiences will be introduced to a completely new and intelligent take on the horror genre. With *Dendam Pontianak*, Goei and Yap pay homage to classical horror, but with a revisionist and contemporary spin.

*“My starting point was - What did the Pontianak do for us to demonise her for centuries in such a way that we are so terrified of her. After all, wasn’t she just a human being who had died at childbirth or with a child? What did she do wrong that has made us cast her as an evil spirit?”* said Singaporean director Glen Goei.

*“The main challenge was coming up with a way to update the story in a new exciting way, while still paying homage to the classic black and white Pontianak films from the 50’s and 60’s. All Pontianak stories deal with the idea of revenge or vengeance so the question for us was, how do we stick with that but come up with a new angle, and for us, the answer was to focus on the Pontianak herself - her backstory. Who was she? What happened to her before she became this monster?”* said Malaysian director Gavin Yap.

*“The core of the story is about love and the cost that comes with betraying that love. Everything that happens in this film, both the good and bad, can be traced back to a decision that started with love.”*

*He added, “My hope for the film is that it entertains. I think that should be any film’s primary objective. But in addition to that, I hope that it can reintroduce the Pontianak folklore to a new generation of Malaysian movie-goers and get people excited about going to watch an old school classic horror film. Because if it can do that, maybe it’ll also encourage people to go back and rediscover some of those old black and white classics.”*

*“We are thrilled to be given the opportunity to work with Tiger Tiger Pictures to release their horror-romance film in Malaysia and we can’t wait for the fans of the amazing cast and moviegoers to experience this highly anticipated film. Aside from producing high quality local feature films, namely Sangkar and Pulang, Primeworks Studios will continue to bring the best of Asian cinema to our shores,” said Puan Nor Shahila Harun Shah, General Manager, Film and Drama, Primeworks Studios.*

This film marks the very first time Nur Fazura and Remy Ishak are paired together in a film production. Rounding up the reputable Malaysia-Singapore cast are Hisyam Hamid, Shenty Feliziana, Nam Ron, Tony Eusoff, Nadiah M.Din, Wan Hanafi Su, Nadia Aqilah and child actor Nik Harraz Danish.

The production crew consists of the best talents from the region including editor Lee Chatametikool (box office hit *Shutter*), sound designer Akritchalerm Kalayanamitr (Cannes Palme d'Or winner, *Uncle Boomee Who Can Recall His Past Lives*), visual consultant Christopher Doyle (*In the Mood for Love*) and upcoming Singaporean cinematographer Jon Keng.

Dato' Sri Siti Nurhaliza sings the theme song “Kasihku Selamanya” and it’s her first for a horror feature film. Composed by award-winning composer Aubrey Suwito with lyrics by Ad Samad, this song took the Number One spot on iTunes on the day of release (10 July 2019). Since then, her legion of fans across the region have made their own covers, which can be seen all over social media, YouTube and Smule.

*Dendam Pontianak*, haunting cinemas in Malaysia from 12 September 2019.

For more info and updates about *Dendam Pontianak*, follow:

- Official Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/dendampontianakofficial](http://www.facebook.com/dendampontianakofficial), or
- Instagram: [www.instagram.com/dendam\\_pontianak](http://www.instagram.com/dendam_pontianak)

#DendamPontianak  
#HanyamuSelamanya

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### **ABOUT TIGER TIGER PICTURES**

Tiger Tiger Pictures is a production company based in Singapore. It produced Glen Goei's *Forever Fever*, the first Singaporean film to be presented at Sundance and to achieve a worldwide commercial release. The film was distributed in America and the United Kingdom, which then signed Goei on an exclusive three-picture deal. Tiger Tiger Pictures also produced Goei's second film, *The Blue Mansion (2009)*, which premiered at the Busan International Film Festival and won the Best Film and Best Director Awards at the SPH Singapore.

### **ABOUT PRIMEWORKS STUDIOS**

Primeworks Studios is an established South-East Asian production company involved in the creative content business in every aspect of the media chain in TV and film production, content sales, film distribution and marketing, animation, talent management as well as licensing and merchandising. It is an award-winning content company producing over 5,000 hours of compelling content annually for a range of platforms including television, cinema and digital. The production house is the creative force behind a wide range of genres including entertainment, magazine, documentary, sports, and drama programmes.

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# Dendam Pontianak

<b>FILM TITLE</b>	Dendam Pontianak <i>(also known as Revenge of the Pontianak in Singapore)</i>
<b>DIRECTORS/WRITERS</b>	Glen Goei & Gavin Yap <a href="http://bit.ly/DP_Directors">http://bit.ly/DP_Directors</a>
<b>CAST</b>	Nur Fazura as Mina Remy Ishak as Khalid Hisyam Hamid as Reza Shenty Feliziana as Siti Nam Ron as Su'ut Din Tony Eusoff as Rais Nadiah M.Din as Aisha Wan Hanafi Su as Penghulu Nadia Aqilah as Ida Nik Harraz Danish as Nik
<b>GENRE</b>	Horror, Romance, Period, Nostalgia
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	Malay
<b>SUBTITLES</b>	English
<b>RELEASE DATE</b>	12 September 2019
<b>RUNTIME</b>	95 mins
<b>RATING</b>	18
<b>PRODUCED BY</b>	Tiger Tiger Pictures
<b>DISTRIBUTOR</b>	Primeworks Studios
<b>SYNOPSIS</b>	1965, Malaysia. A small village helps Khalid (Remy Ishak) and Siti (Shenty Feliziana) prepare for their wedding day. Soon after, a great darkness falls upon the village as a string of horrific deaths and supernatural happenings create widespread fear and paranoia amongst the villagers. The events force a

	<p>confession from Khalid to a murder of a girl he made pregnant years before, now believed to have returned as a Pontianak. To kill this vengeful vampire, he rallies all the men of the village and sets out into the jungle to hunt her down. But can the village stop her?</p>
<b>TRAILER</b>	<a href="https://youtu.be/vayL2VUdzJo">https://youtu.be/vayL2VUdzJo</a>
<b>POSTERS</b>	<a href="http://bit.ly/DP_Posters">http://bit.ly/DP_Posters</a>
<b>THEME SONG</b>	<p>Kasihku Selamanya by Dato' Sri Siti Nurhaliza</p> <p>Composed by Aubrey Suwito Lyrics by Ad Samad</p>
<b>MUSIC VIDEO</b>	<a href="https://youtu.be/hDlj3gjOIVU">https://youtu.be/hDlj3gjOIVU</a>
<b>MOVIE STILLS</b>	<p><a href="http://bit.ly/DP_Stills">http://bit.ly/DP_Stills</a> (Credit: <i>Courtesy of Tiger Tiger Pictures</i>)</p>
<b>DIRECTORS' STATEMENT</b>	<p>The "Pontianak" in Southeast Asian mythology refers to the vengeful spirit of a pregnant woman who died during childbirth. It is one of the most gruesome horror tales in Asian folklore but at its core, Pontianak is a tragic tale of love and loss. Portrayed on a unique Asian canvas, audiences will be introduced to a completely new and intelligent take on the horror genre. With <i>Dendam Pontianak</i>, Goei and Yap pay homage to classical horror, but with a revisionist and contemporary spin.</p>
<b>CREW</b>	<p>Key crew members consist of talents from Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, including:</p> <p><i>Costume Designer</i>   Akma Suriati Binti Awang (<i>Anna &amp; The King, Entrapment, Hanyut</i>)</p> <p><i>Art Director</i>   David Manjit (Pulang)</p> <p><i>Cinematographer</i>   Jon Keng (Burn, Before You Know It)</p> <p><i>Editor</i>   Lee Chatametikool (Shutter)</p> <p><i>Music Composer</i>   Paul Searles</p> <p><i>Sound Designer</i>   Akritchalerm Kalayanamitr (Cemetery of Splendour)</p>
<b>MEDIA RELEASE (Digital Copy)</b>	<a href="http://bit.ly/DP_PRs">http://bit.ly/DP_PRs</a>

## **BIOGRAPHY OF DIRECTORS**

Glen Goei is one of Singapore's leading film and theatre directors. Goei's film, *Forever Fever* (1998), was the first Singapore film to be presented at the Sundance Film Festival and the first to achieve a worldwide commercial release. The film was distributed in America and the United Kingdom by Miramax, which then signed him on an exclusive three-picture deal. His second film, *The Blue Mansion* (2009) premiered at the Busan International Film Festival and won the Best Film and Best Director Awards at the SPH Singapore Entertainment Awards. He graduated from Cambridge with a Masters of Art in History.

Gavin Yap is a Malaysian actor/writer/theatre director and filmmaker. His feature directorial debut, *Take Me To Dinner*, was released in Malaysian cinemas in 2014. His next directorial effort, *The Incredibly Strange Tale Of The Man Who Lost His Love But Bought It Back With A Packet Of Duck Rice* (short film) picked up the Blencong Award at the 2015 Jogja-Netpac International Film Festival, and can now be seen on Doghouse73 Pictures' YouTube Channel. His latest feature, *'KL24: Zombies'*, was released on YouTube in 2017, and has since garnered over 2 million views.