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 한국문화원 Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles	<b>Press Release</b>		다시, 대한민국! 새로운 국민의 나라
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## KCCLA to Host Special Screening of Korean Drama *Western Avenue*

- The screening of *Western Avenue* portrays the story of hardships and hope of Korean immigrants, in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.
- This marks the first K-content produced in Hollywood, with an event featuring director Yoo Seok Jong and actor Jongman Kim.



- ▶ Event Title: Made in Hollywood K-Drama *Western Avenue* Special Screening
- ▶ Date: February 12, 2025, 6:30 PM
- ▶ Venue: Korean Cultural Center, LA Ari Hall
- ▶ Host: Korean Cultural Center, LA(KCCLA), Dejong Film Production
- ▶ Inquires: Seonji Jang, 323-936-7141(x116) / lila@kccla.org

Los Angeles, CA – The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles (Director Sangwon Jung) announced that it will hold a special screening of the Korean drama *Western Avenue*, produced in Hollywood, on February 12th at the Ari Hall of the cultural center in collaboration with Dejong Films. This event marks the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

*Western Avenue* is a five-episode drama that tells the story of Korean American filmmakers' struggles, setbacks, dreams, and hopes as they fight to break through Hollywood's glass ceiling. This series holds significant meaning as the first Korean content produced by Koreans overseas, rather than in Korea. It has been showing on Amazon Prime and OnDemand Korea in November and December of last year.

Directed by Yoo Seok Jong, a filmmaker who has won the Best New Director Award at the Venice Short Film Festival, *Western Avenue* features a cast of Korean American actors, including Jongman Kim, Ian Oh, Teresa Bomi Kim, and Hayden Won. The drama has received acclaim for vividly portraying the harsh lives of immigrants against the backdrop of Hollywood, the global hub of film and entertainment, through the unique voices of its cast members.

At the event, Director Yoo Seok Jong and Actor Jongman Kim will be present, and after the screening, they will share behind-the-scenes stories from the production process and discuss the inspiration behind the creation of the drama.

*Western Avenue* was made possible through the investment of TruAbutment, Inc., led by John Kim, and all profits from the production will be donated to the Korean American community, in accordance with the investment terms.

Director Yoo Seok Jong shared, "When I first saw the Hollywood sign from the western avenue in Koreatown, it felt much closer than I had imagined. While the boundary

between the mainstream and the minority is clear, I thought that, perhaps, we, immigrants, are privileged as minorities who can cross that boundary. That's why I named the drama *Western Avenue*, and I tried to capture the diverse and intense lives of Korean immigrant families, their joys and sorrows, through the camera lens."

Director Sangwon Jung expressed, "It is a great honor to introduce the first Korean drama produced by Koreans in Hollywood in this special screening, in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation. This work depicts the challenges and passions of Korean American filmmakers, and I hope it will become an opportunity to further spread Korean culture and the lives of immigrants to the US and the world."

Reservations can be made on the cultural center's website at [www.kccla.org](http://www.kccla.org).

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