

A Cinema Guild Release



# The Day He Arrives

A film by Hong Sangsoo

79 minutes / 35mm / 1.85:1 / Dolby SRD / South Korea / Not Rated  
In Korean with English Subtitles / Stills available at: [www.cinemaguild.com/downloads](http://www.cinemaguild.com/downloads)

The Cinema Guild, Inc.  
115 West 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 800  
New York, NY 10001-4061  
Tel: (212) 685-6242, Fax: (212) 685-4717  
[www.cinemaguild.com](http://www.cinemaguild.com)

## Synopsis

Seongjun, a film director who no longer makes films, goes to Seoul to meet a close friend. When the friend doesn't show up, Seongjun begins to wander the city aimlessly. He runs into an actress he used to know, shares a drink with some young film students, then, against his better judgment, heads to his ex-girlfriend's apartment. The next day, he finally meets his friend, has some drinks, shares some conversation, and meets a young woman who looks exactly like his ex-girlfriend. The next day goes very much like the previous day. Through it all Seongjun moves forward, struggling to find a purpose to his trip.

A heartbreaking and hilarious film of repeating patterns and circumstance, *The Day He Arrives* is a meditation on relationships, filmmaking, and the unknowable forces that govern our lives.

## **CHARACTERS**

### **Seongjun**

Seongjun has directed four films in the past, but is now teaching at a small college in the countryside. Although he has stopped making films, he is uncertain whether this decision has been guided by personal choice or inability. He seems to have only one friend, Youngho, who lives in Seoul. Now, Seongjun must meet a woman from his past—and another woman who resembles her.

### **Youngho**

Youngho is an introverted film critic and all around nice guy. He's separated from his wife and family after finding it difficult to come home to them every night. Although Youngho is quite an emotional person, he's very cautious to show his feelings. Perhaps this is why he remains 'just friends' with Boram...

### **Boram**

A film studies professor, Boram is a strong and intelligent woman of good character. Be it a romantic adventure or a matter of intellectual curiosity, she is always eager to do her best. However, what she wants is never within her grasp. The only thing she finds security in is her love for her dog.

### **Kyungjin**

Kyungjin is a mystery. She and Seongjun had been longtime lovers until Seongjun abandoned her—but now he has come back. Kyungjin is extremely sensitive and cautious, and lives a very solitary life. However, she feels a destined connection to Seongjun for which she is willing to give anything and everything.

### **Yejeon**

Yejeon has an uncanny resemblance to Kyungjin and owns a bar called "Novel." While she appears quick and practical, Yejeon is actually a naïve person, often deceived by others. Nevertheless, she is a diligent and persevering woman who never gives up.

## **HONG SANGSOO**

### **Biography:**

Hong Sangsoo was born in 1960 in Seoul, and studied filmmaking at Chungang University before receiving a BFA from California College of Arts and Crafts and an MFA from the Art Institute of Chicago. He made an astounding debut with his first feature film *THE DAY A PIG FELL INTO THE WELL* in 1996. Since then, through the 12 films he has written and directed, Hong has consistently enjoyed exploring the complex architecture beneath his character's seemingly random lives. Renowned for his unique cinematographic language and aesthetics in filmmaking, Hong Sangsoo is one of the most established auteurs in contemporary Korean cinema.

### **Filmography:**

The Day a Pig fell into the Well (1996)  
The Power of Kangwon Province (1998)  
Virgin Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors (2000)  
On the Occasion of Remembering the Turning Gate (2002)  
Woman Is the Future of Man (2004)  
Tale of Cinema (2005)  
Woman on the Beach (2006)  
Night and Day (2008)  
Like You Know It All (2009)  
Hahaha (2010)  
Oki's Movie (2010)  
The Day He Arrives (2011)

**Cast**

Seongjun  
Youngho  
Boram  
Kyungjin / Yejeon

Yu Junsang  
Kim Sangjoong  
Song Sunmi  
Kim Bokyoung

**Crew**

Written & Directed by  
Produced by  
Cinematography  
Lighting  
Sound  
Editing  
Original Music

Hong Sangsoo  
Kim Kyounghee  
Kim Hyungkoo  
Yi Yuiheang  
Kim Mir, Song Yeajin  
Hahm Sungwon  
Jeong Yongjin