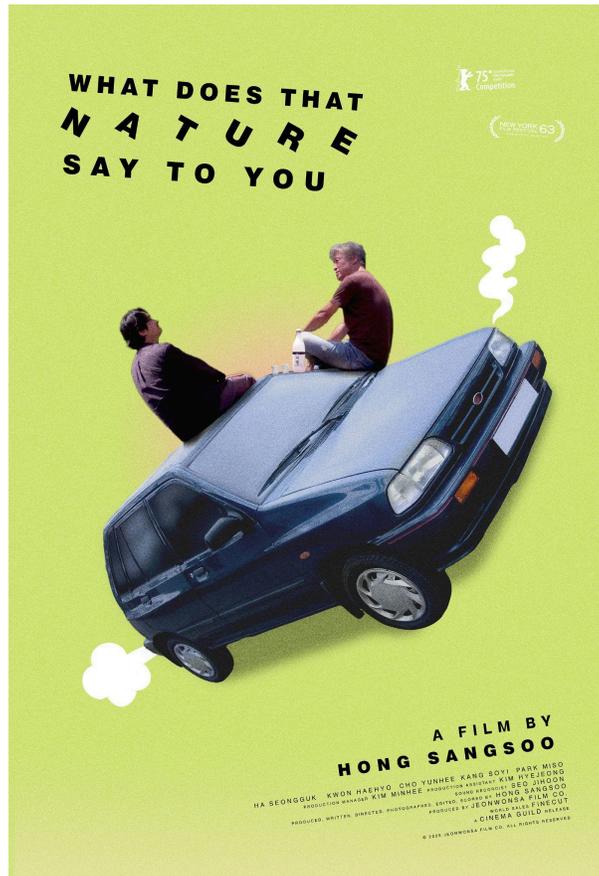


a Cinema Guild release



Opens Feb 27 in New York at Film at Lincoln Center
March 5 in Los Angeles at The American Cinematheque

2025 / 108 min / 16:9 / DCP / Stereo / Color
Korean with English subtitles

Press

[Press Materials](#)

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Booking

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Synopsis

Donghwa (Ha Seongguk) is a fledgling poet in his thirties. He rejects material aspirations and seeks to lead a life dedicated to truth and beauty. On a lazy afternoon, he drives his girlfriend, Junhee (Kang Soyi), back to her parents' home outside Seoul. In the driveway, they run into her father (Kwon Haehyo), who is strangely interested in Donghwa's dinged up old car. He takes it for a spin around the block, then invites Donghwa to stay and meet the family: him, his wife (Cho Yunhee), who also writes poetry, and Junhee's reclusive sister (Park Miso), who practices the gayageum, a traditional string instrument. They end up wiling away the day together, visiting a temple by the river, climbing the hill near the house, watching the sunset, and, sure enough, imbibing drinks. Egged on by Junhee's dad, Donghwa gets progressively more drunk as the day advances. Finally, he makes a fool of himself at dinner. Then everything begins to unravel for the poet: his relationship, his art, his revolutionary ideals.

In his 33rd feature, Hong Sangsoo spins a bitterly comic fable on the trials of living simply and righteously in our world. Grounded in place and composed of subtly complex long takes, which coolly observe the actors tightrope walking across lines of dialogue, the film is a wonder of intuitive formal rigor. As it charts this sincere (perhaps naive) young man's comeuppance in the face of indifferent realities, *What Does That Nature Say to You* blossoms into one of Hong's richest and most revealing character portraits.

Credits

Cast

Ha Seongguk
Kwon Haehyo
Cho Yunhee
Kang Soyi
Park Miso

Crew

Written, Directed and Produced by Hong Sangsoo
Cinematography: Hong Sangsoo
Editing: Hong Sangsoo
Sound: Hong Sangsoo
Screenplay: Hong Sangsoo
Music: Hong Sangsoo
World Sales: Finecut
JEONWONSA Film Co. Production
U.S. Distribution: Cinema Guild

Director's Bio

Born in Seoul, South Korea in 1960, he studied at the city's Chung-Ang University, at the California College of Arts and Crafts and at the Art Institute of Chicago. Since 1996, he has written and directed more than 30 feature films as well as several shorts. His work has already

been invited to the Berlinale *Competition* nine times, most recently in 2026 with *The Day She Returns*.

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)

In Another Country (2012)

Nobody's Daughter Haewon (2013)

Our Sunhi (2013)

Hill of Freedom (2013)

Right Now, Wrong Then (2015)

Yourself and Yours (2016)

On the Beach at Night Alone (2017)

Claire's Camera (2017)

The Day After (2017)

Grass (2018)

Hotel by the River (2018)

The Woman Who Ran (2020)

Introduction (2021)

In Front of Your Face (2021)

The Novelist's Film (2022)

Walk Up (2022)

in water (2023)

In Our Day (2023)

A Traveler's Needs (2024)

By the Stream (2024)

What Does That Nature Say to You (2025)

The Day She Returns (2026)

Select Festivals & Awards

Competition – Berlin International Film Festival

Official Selection – Buenos Aires International Independent Film Festival

Official Selection – Sydney Film Festival

Official Selection – Shanghai International Film Festival

Official Selection – Andrei Tarkovsky International Film Festival Zerkalo

Main Prize – Karlovy Vary International Film Festival

Official Selection – Melbourne International Film Festival

Official Selection – Vancouver International Film Festival

Official Selection – Vienna International Film Festival