



## Special Screening for PHL Entry for Oscars Held in Hollywood



Above from left: Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz and Commission on Filipinos Overseas Chairperson Francisco P. Acosta addressed the guests of the special screening. (Photo Credit: Mr. Benjamin Ascue)

06 December 2019, Hollywood – On 25 November 2019 at the Chaplin Theater of Raleigh Studios, the Philippine Consulate General, together with the Filipino-American community, welcomed Fil-Am government officials, Fil-Am Hollywood stars and members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, popularly known as The Oscars, during the special screening of “Verdict.” The film was the country’s official entry to the 92nd Academy Awards under the Best International Feature Film category.



Consul General Adelio Angelito Cruz, in his welcome remarks, lauded the award-winning film, which has garnered the Special Orizzonti Jury Prize at the 76th Venice International Film Festival and the “Best Actress” Award for the performance of Ms. Max Eigenmann in the 2019 Asia Pacific Screen Awards held in Australia.

The screening of ‘Verdict’ is also timed with the Consulate General’s celebration of the centennial anniversary of the Philippine cinema.

The film is a courtroom drama that depicts the realities of criminal jurisprudence in the Philippines, and the rawness of domestic violence and the scourge of drugs. The film was directed by Raymund Ribay Gutierrez and produced by Brillante Mendoza's Center Stage Productions.

One of the special guests, Commission on Filipinos Overseas Chairperson, Francisco P. Acosta also delivered a message and highlighted the Duterte Administration's firm resolve to address domestic violence, protect women and children, and empower them.

Prior to the screening, the Consulate General held a reception featuring famous Filipino cuisines such as adobo, lechon, sisig, among others.

The screening was made possible through the support of the Department of Foreign Affairs Office of Strategic Communications and Research-Cultural Diplomacy Division (OSCR-CDD); the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP) under the leadership of its Chair, Ms. Liza Diño; and Fil-Am members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, Mr. and Mrs. Ruben and Janet Nepales. END.



*Clockwise: Consul General Cruz with Fil-Am Hollywood actors Mark Dacascos, with his wife, Julie; Fil-Am Members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, Ms. Janet Nepales (leftmost and Mr. Ruben Nepales (rightmost), with Fil-Am AMPAS member PJ Raval (2<sup>nd</sup> from left); Consul General and Mrs. Cruz with Tia Carrere; Vice Consul Dyan Kristine Pastrana (leftmost) and Consul General Cruz (rightmost) with Fil-Am Hollywood actor Jon Jon Briones with his daughter, English actress, Isa Briones (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) (Photo Credit: Mr. Rick Gavino)*