

A Divine Film

SUMMER'S CAMERA



I aimed to create a world where characters could comfortably talk about their identities and where LGBTQIA+ individuals could feel safe – even if only in this small cinematic space.

Director Divine Sung's Interview in *View of Arts*



2025 BFI Flare London LGBTQIA+ Film Festival

2025 Jeonju International Film Festival

Korean Competition - NONGSHIM SHINRAMYUN Award

Jury Statement : Summer's Camera, which depicts a girl going through an inflection point of growth, was a work with cinematic perfection, using cinematic ideas and images in an efficient and unified manner. We support the director to explore and embody his own uniqueness more challenging and fierce in future works.

2025 Seattle International Film Festival : Official Competiton

Wavemaker Award: Best FutureWave Feature

Jury Statement : This year's winner used silence in a powerful way to make their pacing dynamic. The various shot styles made this film engaging to watch and added onto the powerful imagery. We enjoyed how the characters developed in a natural and satisfying way, especially through their relationships. Their discovery of themselves unfolded beautifully on screen.

[FILM INFORMATION]

Title : SUMMER'S CAMERA

Director : Divine Sung

Cast : Kim Sia

Production Company : A Divine Film

[SYNOPSIS]

After her father passed away, Summer stopped taking photos.

One day, she falls for Yeonwoo,

the school's soccer star, and takes her picture with her late father's camera.

When she develops the film,

she finds mysterious photos of her father's high school lover.

In these photos, Summer uncovers a secret about her father.

Will she be able to pursue her first love and uncover her father's hidden truth?

[KEY CREW INTRODUCTION]

Director. Divine Sung

Divine Sung is a Seoul-based filmmaker with an MFA in Film Directing from Korea National University of Arts. Her short films include TRUE STORY (2019) and MY BOYFRIEND AND OUR YESTERDAY (2022). SUMMER'S CAMERA is her first feature film.

Actor. Kim Sia

Kim Sia appeared in the Netflix film KILL BOKSOON (2023) and the Netflix series SWEET HOME Season 2 (2023) and Season 3 (2024). She made her debut in the feature film MISS BAEK (2018), earning multiple child actor awards. Currently, she is one of the most promising young actresses in South Korea. SUMMER'S CAMERA marks her first leading role in a film.

[FILM STILL]





[REVIEW]

This absolutely charming coming-of-age feature debut follows a gay teen navigating her first high school romance while coping with the grief of her father's death. The warm cinematography offers an inviting backdrop to the themes of love and loss, culminating in a contemplative closing shot.

_ SUJ'N CHON, SIFF

A delicate and sweet self-discovery tale about a young girl whose dad's photographs give her the way to unlock a family secret, and her own as well.

_ ANGELO ACERBI, SIFF

Summer is reluctant to finish her late father's final roll of film until she finds a surprisingly captivating subject: her school's soccer star Yeonwoo. When she develops her prints, she is puzzled to find lovingly framed photographs of a strange man. On her quest to unravel the mystery of her father's friend and her own attraction to Yeonwoo, Summer receives help from an unexpected mentor. First-time director Divine Sung realizes her vision through beautiful cinematography, empathetic character development, and the universal experience of first queer love. The film successfully grounds itself in Summer's unique perspective as she navigates the joy of her sapphic awakening and the grief of confronting a family secret. *Summer's Camera* avoids the tired tropes of many queer narratives to provide a wholly delicious slice of life that balances the humorous and the bittersweet. This delightfully tender story of first love and loss will resonate for audiences young and old alike.

_ Megan Garbayo-López, SIFF

The film never sensationalises Summer's journey, nor does it overemphasise her struggles. Instead, it focuses on the purity of love and the gradual self-acceptance that comes with it. This approach is not just refreshing – it's necessary, especially in a society where LGBTQIA+ rights and visibility remain a sensitive and often contentious issue. In *Summer's Camera*, Divine Sung delivers a film that connects with universal emotions, offering a sincere portrayal of first love and the courage to be true to oneself.

_ Maggie Gogler, VIEW OF THE ARTS

Sung's touch is tender and precise, yet effortless, as if she had decades of experience under her belt. The film itself has a distinct air and presence to it that only adds to its appeal. The recurring motif of freezing time is beautifully written and executed, and stands as further testament to Sung's skill as a screenwriter and filmmaker. She has endless promise in the field and I hope to see more from her in the future.

_ Karena Blomberg, FOCUS

Reflecting the huge importance of photographs and memories in the grief process, *Summer's Camera* will perhaps be one of the very few films in 2025 to highlight the almost religious anticipation of collecting a reel of film. Gorgeously scored and shot, writer and director Sung crafts a beautiful portrayal of achingly sweet first love, the crushing feeling of first heartbreak and the complex journey of bereavement.

_ CHRIS DREW , DOG AND WOLF

For most of its running time, the film is sweet and undemanding, but the last 15 minutes, as hearts are broken and secrets revealed, demonstrate that Sung is a director with a great future ahead of her. As Summer, Kim Sia is impressive; guarded, yet hopeful, capturing how childhood is made up of auspicious moments that will change one's life forever.

_ Richard Maguire, THE REVIEWS HUB

Often, we label a director's debut film as 'audacious' or 'bold' – an assertion. Divine Sung's Summer's Camera is precisely the opposite: it's understated, incredibly tender, occasionally a little cheesy in its saccharine approach, and quietly subversive. Sung makes her statement by subtly highlighting how modern teenagers can settle into their queerness a little more easily: something that is vital for the community to remember. She actively avoids subjecting the next generation to the uniquely queer difficulties of romance, without ever letting us forget how it once was.

_ JOSH OSMAN, EASTERNKICKS

It's a gorgeous tender film of young love and heartbreak, as realised by Kim Sia's performance and a perfect blend of digital and analogue photos, and it is a very successful debut from Sung.

_ DANIEL ALLEN, LOUD AND CLEAR

The multi-layered, sensitively developed story captures shades of adolescence that we don't often see. Smooth surfaces conceal unexpected depths. Intimate and particular, Summer's Camera is a gem.

_ Jennie Kermode, EYE FOR FILM

Be gay, shoot film! I love the idea of hearing the shutter click before you take the shot. It's so closely linked to the regret of missing a shot, the fleeting chance to capture a moment forever.

_ Penko , Letterboxd

Stunningly shot. Truly felt like you could take any frame of this and it would be a beautiful photo. It beautifully captured the confusion of being a teen, and grief, and sexuality. And it did so in such a loving way.

_ Claire , Letterboxd

The film stills of SUMMER'S CAMERA can be downloaded from
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1i0000v4dI8E_TEIrPjdVFor36UBMwt40?usp=sharing

For any inquiries regarding SUMMER'S CAMERA, please contact **A Divine Film** at
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