

Press Kit



## **Information**

- \* **Title**                    HITMAN: Agent Jun
- \* **Director**                CHOI Won-sub
- \* **CAST**                    KWON Sang-woo, JEOUNG Jun-ho, HWANG WOO Seul-hye, LEE Yi-kyung
- \* **Presented by**    LOTTE ENTERTAINMENT
- \* **Production**        VERYGOODSTUDIO
  
- \* **Production Start**      May. 21, 2019
- \* **Production End**        Sep. 11, 2019
- \* **Local Release Date**    Jan. 22, 2020

## **SYNOPSIS**

Jun is a top agent of the National Intelligence Service who can strike down dozens of terrorists in one fell swoop. Disenchanted with his life, Jun disguises his death and succeeds in leaving the NIS to lead a normal life as a family man and fulfill his dream of becoming a webtoon artist. However, his unexciting webtoons are ignored by readers and even his wife. Depressed and angry at himself, Jun suddenly draws a webtoon of his past as a secret agent. To his shock, the webtoon gets accidentally revealed to the public, goes viral, and becomes a huge hit! Consequently, some members of the NIS and organized gangs, with grudges against Jun, come across the webtoon and start to hunt him down.

## **ABOUT MOVIE 1**

**A hilarious comedy filled with actions!**

**Set to be the hit sensation of the 2020 Lunar New Year holidays!**

<Hitman: Agent Jun>, a comic action film that is set to be the biggest hit of the 2020 Lunar New Year holidays, is a fun-filled story about 'Jun,' a former NIS special agent who draws classified, top-secrets in a webtoon and becomes the target of the NIS (National Intelligence Service) and terrorists.

Director CHOI Won-sub, who has consistently taken on the comedy genre, expressed his intentions to direct <Hitman: Agent Jun> by saying, **"I focused the most on how to make everything funnier. I wanted to make the funniest movie with realistic actions in a comical and fun way."** Actor KWON Sang-woo, who plays the role of special agent 'Jun', said, **"It's a movie that can't help but make people laugh non-stop,"** and expressed his affection for the movie. Proving the confidence of the director and actors in the film, <Hitman: Agent Jun> is armed with laughter-explosive appeals in the character settings. 'Jun', who was once a legendary killer agent, is now a struggling webtoon artist suffering from appalling comments on his webtoons. 'Deok-kyu' is a charismatic NIS trainer from hell with a sensitive side. 'Chul' is a huge fan of 'Jun' and the last of the Shield Team. 'Mi-na' is the trusty wife of 'Jun', the desperately struggling webtoon artist. 'Ga-young' is Jun's daughter who dreams of becoming a successful rapper. As such, the characters' surprising charms will bring pleasant laughs to audiences of <Hitman: Agent Jun>.

As Jun's hidden past life is unintentionally revealed, he becomes a double target of the NIS and terrorists in an action-packed comedy. Martial arts choreographer KIM Chul-joon said, **"I worked hard to produce actions that are not too heavy but full of vigor and excitement for the whole family to enjoy over the Lunar New Year holiday,"** and raises expectations to witness the speedy, thrilling action scenes within <Hitman: Agent Jun>. Actor JEONG Jun-ho said, **"The behaviors or actions that come naturally in urgent moments create situations where we can't help but laugh,"** and raises expectations for the comedy with surprising twists. In addition, the triggers to laugh in <Hitman: Agent Jun> are also created by strong mouth-action and suspenseful moves to provide a variety of fun. Armed with such strong, must-see comedy and thrilling action scenes, <Hitman: Agent Jun> heralds the birth of the biggest hit, comic action film for the entire family to enjoy together during the Lunar New Year holidays in 2020.

## **ABOUT MOVIE 2**

**Cartoon-style imagination unfolds on screen!**

**Unique visuals that go back and forth between live-actions, webtoons, and animations!**

<Hitman: Agent Jun> draws attention with its interesting setting and comic imagination of a former special agent becoming a webtoon artist. Although Jun realizes his long-time dream of becoming a webtoon artist, his webtoons are always ranked at the rock bottom and he struggles with negative comments on them. One night, Jun gets drunk and draws out his top-secret agent life. The situation is presented with cross-cuts between live-action, webtoon stills, and animations to keep audiences glued to the big screen.

<Hitman: Agent Jun> will exceed expectations by presenting these comic imaginations and interesting settings in a dynamic, diverse range of action scenes. The characters are drawn out in webtoons and animations and are cross-cut between live-action scenes to create new, fresh visuals like never seen before. The production established a separate webtoon and animation team from the planning stages of the screenplay writing and tried to enhance its completeness and quality by establishing a cooperative branching system. Director CHOI Won-sub said, **“We worked hard to make the webtoons and animations look dynamic on the screen.”** Artist KIM Ye-shin, who worked on the webtoons, said, **“I worked closely with the director and discussed on the strong style of drawings and action settings that suit the film while working on the webtoons and animations to feature the core story,”** and raises expectations to witness the production team’s hard efforts.

The unique visuals of <Hitman: Agent Jun>, which run between live-actions, webtoons, and animations, will make the movie even more enjoyable for the audience. On the intense, speedy action scenes unique to special agents, in live-action as well as animation scenes, JEOUNG Jun-ho commented, **“The film contains the advantages of webtoons and animations cross-cutting with live-action to further maximize the dramatic content of the characters and plot.”**

## **ABOUT MOVIE 3**

**Ace agents of the NIS 'Shield Team' KWON Sang-woo x JEOUNG Jun-ho x LEE Yi-kyung and HWANG WOO Seul-hye x LEE Ji-won as mother and daughter!  
Check out the comic chemistry of the best actors!**

<Hitman: Agent Jun> presents actors who boast high synchro rates with their characters, as if wearing custom made clothes, and a great synergy between the feast of unique roles. As the director said he **"wrote the screenplay from the start with KWON Sang-woo in mind,"** KWON has captivated audiences in comedy and action movies such as <The Accidental Detective> series and <The Divine Move: Ghost Move>. This time, KWON transforms into a legendary special-agent-turned struggling webtoon artist that only he can portray and created a character that is tailored to him.

'Deok-kyu', a NIS agent trainer from hell, is made complete by JEOUNG Jun-ho, an actor who has mega hits in comedy under his belt and perfects a comic tiki-taka play with KWON Sang-woo in a brilliant comeback to the big screen. KWON Sang-woo said, **"As soon as I read the script, I thought JEOUNG Jun-ho must play to role of Chief CHEON Deok-kyu,"** and raised expectations to witness JEOUNG's portrayal of the character. 'Chul', the youngest special agent of the Shield Team and huge fan of Jun, is portrayed by LEE Yi-kyung, a talented actor with an active career in drama series, films, and entertainment shows. JEOUNG Jun-ho commented, **"LEE made great ad-libs with quick-wittedness in comic scenes and made everyone laugh on the set."** With explosive comedy and actions from the three members of the legendary Shield Team in <Hitman: Agent June>, the film is set to present a comedy banquet with strong presence across theaters this January.

In addition, interest is high to witness actress HWANG WOO Seul-hye, who has been recognized for her comic character portrayals through various works, and young actress LEE Ji-won, who presents her proven, stable acting skills. They transform into a mother and daughter in <Hitman: Agent Jun>. Along with KWON Sang-woo, they present a realistic family that struggles financially in life. Their great chemistry together as a family will draw much empathy and laughs from viewers. Also, HWANG WOO shows off great action scenes on wires while LEE presents her rap skills, along with their comic roles, to maximize <Hitman: Agent June> as a must-see film.

## **PRODUCTION NOTE 1**

**Hit comedy! Hit actions!**

**From the strong performances of comedy aces  
to the spectacular action scenes of the NIS agents!**

<Hitman: Agent Jun>, a movie filled with unforgettable action scenes and laughter bombs from beginning to end, captivated all the cast members with different appeals from the stage of the screenplay. The actors all agreed that they **“fell into the script more”** as they read and that **“it felt new each time.”** They also added that they **“laughed even after reading it several times,”** and noted the solid and interesting screenplay was the reason behind their decisions to take part.

Based on the screenplay, director CHOI created a comfortable atmosphere for the actors to fully demonstrate their comedy talents on the spot. He said, **“I wanted to make a minimum foundation based on the script so that the actors could add to it and act freely.”** As such, the actors made ad-libs freely and filled the set with laughter. Also, they often gathered together even on days when there was no shooting and got close enough to guess what each other wanted to do. LEE Yi-kyung said, **“I was so thankful that the ad-libs I made on the set were accepted well by the other actors,”** and revealed his great chemistry with his senior actors. KWON Sang-woo commented, **“LEE Yi-kyung is really strong with his mouth. He’s the next SEONG Dong-il,”** and complimented him highly and revealed the pleasant, warm atmosphere on the set. As such, the fantastic acting ensemble of Korea’s leading comedic actors and their perfect synergy together in <Hitman: Agent Jun> will bring even more fun and entertainment from the screenplay.

There are spectacular actions scenes as well as great comedy in <Hitman: Agent Jun>. Martial arts choreographer KIM Chul-joon commented, **“The actions were well expressed according to each character’s personality and charms. KWON Sang-woo showed low-key yet powerful techniques. JEOUNG Jun-ho presented sophistication and skills in his actions. LEE Yi-kyung showed powerful moves as a current agent,”** and raised expectations to witness the different actions by the three agents of the Shield Team. In addition, actress HWANG WOO Seul-hye, who took on the challenge of high-intensity wire actions as well as close combat, also attracts much attention. Her wire action shows her potential as an action star, while showing different charms from the powerful actions of the three Shield Team agents. As such, <Hitman: Agent Jun>, rich with perfect comedy and action performances by the actors, will captivate audiences across theaters with fresh, unique appeals that have never been seen before in Korean films.

## **PRODUCTION NOTE 2**

**Opening a new chapter in comic action movies!**

**Live-action with webtoons and animations!**

**Webtoon production that infinitely expands the cinematic fun and scale!**

<Hitman: Agent Jun> features webtoons and animations that captivate the viewers' attention along with the unforgettable performances of the three agents of the Shield Team and Jun's family. The animations, which open a new chapter in the comic action films, express the characters' thrilling actions and colorful charms in more entertaining and diverse ways to maximize cinematic fun.

The production team worked on the webtoons and animations prior to production with webtoon artist KIM Ye-shin to capture Jun's actions as a special agent in even more detailed, sophisticated, and fast-paced scenes. Director CHOI Won-sub collaborated with webtoon artist KIM Ye-shin to capture the charisma and action of an assassin-like character dealing with terrorists on missions as a special agent of the Shield Team, a top-secret team of the NIS. KIM Ye-shin said, **"I came to work together with director CHOI because he wanted to express a noire-style in the drawings, character designs, and the many action scenes."** As such, the webtoons were set from the beginning with character designs and actions. The animations also dynamically capture the urgent actions as the scenes change naturally from the webtoons. For this, artist KIM Ye-shin said, **"There were many scenes where Jun's webtoons flow to animations, so I participated in the post-production as well. For example, I worked on constantly adjusting details to make the dialogue and the characters in the webtoons shown on cellular phones or computer screens better, as well as making the colors and such suit the real-life scenes."** As such, the film presents quality visuals that freely cross between live-action, webtoons, and animations.

Director CHOI Won-sub discussed constantly with artist KIM Ye-shin on how to make contrasts between Jun's floundering webtoon <Hilarious Shaolin Temple> and his mega hit <Special Agent, Jun>. Webtoon artist KIM said, **"I tried to express the poor work in a comical way, and the action scenes in the hit webtoon [Special Agent, Jun] in more stylish actions to show the contrasts and make them more entertaining to watch."** As such, <Hitman: Agent Jun> is set to open a new chapter for the comic action genre through webtoons and animations which are implemented on a delicate yet extended scale.



## **CHARACTER & CAST**

### **“What’s wrong with drawing cartons? It’s my dream.” A special agent who became a webtoon artist – Jun (Soo-hyuk)**

‘Jun’ is a former special agent of the Shield Team who had escaped the NIS to become a webtoon artist. He changes his name to ‘Soo-hyuk’ and becomes a webtoon artist like he dreamed, but reality is not as great as he had hoped. Jun, who always ranks at the bottom of published webtoons and suffers from negative comments, gets drunk one night and draws out his special agent life and top secrets of the country. To his shock, the webtoon ends up on the Internet and becomes an instant hit overnight. As the webtoon goes viral, Jun ends up becoming the target of the NIS as well as terrorists.

### **A trusted, master of comedy and actions - KWON Sang-woo**

KWON, who made his debut in 2001 through the MBC drama series [Sweet Proposal], captivated viewers with his performances in various genres, including action, comedy, and melodrama. In particular, he was well-received for his role as an action star through films such as <Once Upon a Time in High School> and <Running Wild> while proving the essence of his tight-knit comic acting through films such as <My Tutor Friend> and <The Accidental Detective> series. He returns to the big screen with <Hitman: Agent Jun>, a comic action film that will be fun for all generations over the 2020 Lunar New Year holidays to fully showcase his talent in comedy and actions. KWON returns as ‘Jun’, a special agent who becomes a webtoon artist in <Hitman: Agent Jun> to give audiences laughing down the aisles.

#### **[Filmography]**

**Films:** <The Divine Move: Ghost Move>(2019), <Love, Again>(2019), <The Accidental Detective 2: In Action>(2018), <The Accidental Detective>(2015), <Pained>(2011), <71: Into the Fire>(2010), <More Than Blue>(2009), <Fate>(2008), <Almost Love>(2006), <Running Wild>(2006), <Love, So Divine>(2004), <Once Upon a Time in High School>(2004), <My Tutor Friend>(2003) and others  
**Drama series:** [Queen of Mystery 2](2018), [Queen of Mystery](2017), [Temptation](2014), [Medical Top Team](2013), [Queen of Ambition](2013), [Daemul](2010), [Cinderella Man](2009), [Cruel Love](2007~2008), [Sad Love Story](2005), [Stairway to Heaven](2003~2004) and others

## **CHARACTER & CAST**

**“What nonsense? Who says you’re the ace?”**

**The NIS trainer from hell – Deok-kyu**

‘Deok-kyu’, a trainer from hell, has raised many special agents ready to kill. He is a legendary agent who is currently the head chief of the Counterterrorism Security Agency of the NIS (National Intelligence Service). As Jun’s webtoon goes viral and the nation’s top secrets are revealed to the public, Deok-kyu realizes that Jun, who had gone missing in action 15 years ago, must be alive. He goes on the chase to seize Jun before bigger secrets are published in more webtoons.

### **The best of the best comic actors - JEONG Jun-ho**

JEONG has impressed audiences by proving his own unique comic performances through hit films such as <My Boss, My Hero> and the <Marrying the Mafia> series. He is back in the spotlight with his recent performances in the drama series [Sky Castle] and [The Tale of Nokdu] and in which he had proved his acting potentials once again. JEONG Jun-ho draws much attention in his return to the big screen as ‘Deok-kyu’, the legendary trainer from hell who had raised special agents set to kill. He presents a character with a sloppy, odd side despite his cool appearance to add more fun to the plot.

#### **[Filmography]**

**Films:** <Operation Chromite>(2016), <Return of the Mafia>(2012), <City of Damnation>(2009), <Righteous Ties>(2006), <My Boss, My Teacher>(2006), <The Twins>(2005), <Another Public Enemy>(2005), <Lost in the South Mission: Going Home>(2003), <Marrying the Mafia>(2002), <A Perfect Match>(2002), <My Boss, My Hero>(2001) and others

**Drama series:** [The Tale of Nokdu](2019), [Sky Castle](2018~2019), [The Flower in Prison](2016), [Sweet, Savage Family](2015~2016), [Mama](2014), [Queen of Reversals](2010~2011), [IRIS](2009), [Last Scandal](2008) and others

## **FILMMAKER**

***“I hope it’ll be a film that emits the power of comedy films.”***

### **Director CHOI Won-sub**

Director CHOI Won-sub was recognized for his strong writing skills in 2009 for his adaptation of the movie <Closer to Heaven>. Since his debut as director with the 29-minute short film <Fantastic Couple>, director CHOI has distinguished himself in comedy films with his unique talent in other works such as <There’s Something about Boram> and <My Burning Heart>. His detailed portrayal about a story that begins with a long-term lovers’ squabble in a comic way in <There’s Something about Boram> drew much attention from critics and won him the Audience Prize at the 6<sup>th</sup> Mise-en-Scene Short Film Festival.

Director CHOI Won-sup presents dynamic variations with an interesting story, webtoons and animations in <Hitman: Agent Jun>, a movie about a former special agent becoming a webtoon artist and accidentally leaking top-class secrets through his work. The film is ready and set to be the most hilarious comic action movie of the upcoming Lunar New Year’s holiday. Claiming he focused the most on **“how to make it funnier,”** director CHOI worked on building up the three-dimensional charms of the main characters of <Hitman: Agent Jun>. When a scene is completed as he had hoped, he did another take so the actors can perform as they had thought and provided ample room for character expressions. The characters in the movie are not only realistic, but also made complete with glowing comic synergies together. Director CHOI worked on the screenplay with KWON Sang-woo in mind for the legendary special agent and set the stage for incredible action scenes as well as hilarious and exhilarating comic actions.

Director CHOI Won-sub, who introduces himself as **“a believer in the power of comedy films,”** described, **“The greatest appeal of <Hitman: Agent Jun> is that is a movie that anyone can enjoy and feel the excitement,”** and explained the film’s charm of being a film for all generations to laugh along. He also said, **“Thanks to the chemistry of the actors that lit up each scene, the film was created much more interesting and fun than the screenplay.”** Audiences can look forward to witnessing the actors’ fun cooperation with director CHOI and the comedy actions created in <Hitman: Agent Jun>.

### **[Filmography]**

**Films:** <Fantastic Couple>(2004), <There’s Something about Boram>(2006), <My Burning Heart>(2010) (directed)

<Closer to Heaven>(2009) (adaptation)