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Nottingham Chinese Independent Film Festival

诺丁汉中国独立电影节

Friday 16 to Sunday 18 May 2014
www.nottingham.ac.uk/cfm/nciff



Welcome to the Nottingham Chinese Independent Film Festival

The NCIFF aims to showcase award-winning independent Chinese films produced in recent years and establish a critical dialogue between film curators, researchers, filmmakers and audience in and outside China.

It brings together films of different genres and topics, which unfold pictures of a fast-changing Chinese society. It also brings two well-known Chinese independent film directors, Pema Tsenden (director of *Old Dog*, 2011) and Feng Yan (director of *Bing'ai*, 2007), from China to Nottingham to discuss their films with the audience.

The NCIFF is curated by Sabrina Yu, Lydia Wu from Newcastle University and myself. We hope you enjoy this eclectic and stimulating programme.

Dr Hongwei Bao
Department of Culture, Film and Media
The University of Nottingham

Cover image: *Bing'ai*



The Piano in a Factory

The New Book of Mountains and Seas



Partners and sponsors

The NCIFF is part of the UK celebrations to mark the 10th anniversary of the Chinese Independent Festival UK, co-hosted by three UK institutions — Newcastle University, The University of Nottingham and the Chinese Visual Festival, London.

This event contributes to the AHRC Chinese Film Festival Studies Network, of which The University of Nottingham is a member. The NCIFF is funded by the Faculty of Arts's Deans Fund and the Centre for Contemporary East Asian Cultural Studies at The University of Nottingham. Broadway Cinema Nottingham is the industry partner for the event, along with the Creative Student Network.

Festival programme Friday 16 May

Festival pass — access to all NCIFF screenings for £25.
Tickets for individual screenings — £5 each.

In conversation — Directors Pema Tsenden and Feng Yan discuss independent filmmaking in China

Chaired by Dr Luke Robinson, Lecturer in Film Studies, University of Sussex

3pm to 5pm
A41, Sir Clive Granger Building,
University Park, Nottingham

A unique opportunity to hear the award-winning directors Pema Tsenden (*Old Dog*, 2011) and Feng Yan (*Bing'ai*, 2007) discuss their own work, that of their contemporaries, and the state of independent filmmaking in China today.

This event is free and there is no need to book. For more information, contact hongwei.bao@nottingham.ac.uk

Evening screenings

All film screenings take place at the Broadway Cinema. Visit www.broadway.org.uk for timings.

Old Dog

(Pema Tsenden, 2011, feature, 88 min)
Screening followed by a Q&A with the director, chaired by Dr Luke Robinson, University of Sussex

A family on the Himalayan plains discovers their dog is worth a fortune, but selling it comes at a terrible price.

Yumen

(JP Sniadecki, Huang Xiang and Xu Ruotao, 2013, documentary, 63 min)

Three filmmakers explore Yumen — a 'ghost town' in Gansu Province — guided by three local women.

Saturday 17 May

Afternoon screenings: Chinese animations

From re-imaginings of traditional folk tales to imaginative explorations of post-apocalyptic worlds, these innovative animations will inspire and delight.

The Universe Cotton

(Lei Lei, 2008, animation, 4 min)

Pear or Alien

(Lei Lei, 2008, animation, 4 min)

Double Act

(Dir. Ding Shiwei, 2013, animation, 4 min)

The Hunter and the Skeleton

(Bai Bin, 2012, animation, 26 min)

Chasing

(Wu Chao, 2011, animation, 22 min)

The New Book of Mountains and Seas

(Qiu Anxiong, 2006, animation, 30 min)

Evening screenings

Bing'ai

(Feng Yan, 2007, documentary, 114 min)

Screening followed by a Q&A with the director, chaired by Dr Mark Gallagher, University of Nottingham

The construction of the Three Gorges Dam displaced 1.13m people living along the Yangtze River. The majority were farmers.

This is the story of one — a woman who refused to move away from her land.

The Piano in a Factory

(Zhang Meng, 2010, feature, 107 min)

A former factory worker battles adversity to ensure his daughter can continue her piano lessons — a bitter-sweet tale of fatherly love and hopefulness.

Sunday 18 May

Afternoon screening

No 89 Shiman Rd

(Shu Haolun, 2010, feature, 85 min)

Amidst the influx of new cultures and ideas entering late 1980s China, Xiaoli comes of age in Shanghai, surrounded by his neighbours, his grandfather and his two female friends.

Evening screenings

Madame

(Qiu Jiongjiong, 2010, documentary, 120 min)

A biographical account of the late drag-queen Fan Qihui, better known as Madame Bilan de Linphel — one of the most controversial and revered figures of Beijing's night life in recent times.

The Cremator

(Peng Tao, 2012, feature, 90 min)

A daring and compelling drama about Cao, a middle-aged bachelor crematorium worker who secretly runs a side-line business as a 'ghost matchmaker' — marrying unidentified women's corpses posthumously to deceased unmarried men.

All screenings take place at the Broadway Cinema, 14-18 Broad Street, Nottingham NG1 3AL. Visit www.broadway.org.uk for screening times.