

FILM MOVEMENT CLASSICS

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presents



## **NEW 4K RESTORATION**

supervised by Tsui Hark and Nansun Shi in collaboration with L'Immagine Ritrovata The Shanghai Blues soundtrack was remixed by One Cool Sound



OFFICIAL SELECTION CANNES CLASSICS FESTIVAL DE CANNES

# NOMINATED FOR 8 HONG KING FILM AWARDS including BEST FILM, BEST DIRECTOR, BEST ACTRESS

Hong Kong | 1984 | Cantonese, Mandarin with English subtitles Comedy, Romance | 103 minutes | 1.85:1 | Mono

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#### SYNOPSIS

In 1937 after The Second Sino-Japanese War breaks out a soldier and a young woman have an awkward meet cute in darkness under a bridge as they seek refuge during a bomb raid. Although they can't see each other's faces they promise to meet again after the dust settles. Ten years later the soldier, now a burgeoning songwriter and tuba-player in a marching band, is back in town desperately searching for his would-be soulmate. As fate would have it they end up living in the same building unbeknownst to each other. Through a series of mishaps he mistakes her new ingénue roommate for his love interest and wacky love triangle hijinks ensue.

Consummate auteur Tsui Hark almost singlehandedly reinvented Hong Kong cinema in the '80s and '90s with uber-kinetic genre opuses, amping up cinematic spectacle whether with special effects or sheer unbridled energy. This Hong Kong styled homage to the screwball comedies of yesteryear features black belt level slapstick and delightfully droll romcom shenanigans. With striking mise en scène and inspired production design *Shanghai Blues* is "luscious, loving and a lot of fun...one of Tsui Hark's most enjoyable works" (*South China Morning Post*).



# **ABOUT TSUI HARK**

Tsui Hark is widely regarded as one of the most influential filmmakers in Hong Kong cinema, known for his innovative style and pushing the boundaries of filmmaking. He emerged as a key figure during the 1980s Hong Kong New Wave, challenging genre conventions and censorship restrictions with films like *Butterfly Murders* and *Dangerous Encounters of the First Kind*.

In 1984, Tsui co-founded Film Workshop, leading to a series of commercially successful films that defined the golden era of Hong Kong cinema. Works such as *A Chinese Ghost Story, Swordsman* and *Once Upon a Time in China* solidified his dominance in Asia.



After directing films in Hollywood, Tsui returned to Hong Kong in the mid-1990s and expanded his reach globally with films like *Iron Monkey* and *Time and Tide*, which reinvented Hong Kong action genre for international audiences.

From 2011, Tsui ventured into 3D filmmaking with films like *Flying Swords of Dragon Gate* and *Young Detective Dee: Rise of the Sea Dragon*. His film *The Taking of Tiger Mountain 3D* earned him the Best Director award at the Golden Rooster Awards and the Hong Kong Film Awards.

Other notable achievements was co-directing and co-producing *The Battle at Lake Changjin*, a record-breaking Chinese film that garnered Best Directors and Best Film awards at the Golden Rooster Film Awards. Most recently, his film *Septet: The Story of Hong Kong*, was an Official Selection for the 2020 Cannes Film Festival, and he is currently in post-production for the adaptation of the classic Jin Yong novel *The Legend of the Condor Heroes*.

## **ABOUT THE CAST**

**Sylvia Chang** (Shu) is a renowned actress, screenwriter and director. She began her film career in the 1970s and has since starred in over one hundred movies. Chang has won the Hong Kong Film Award for Best Actress and Best Screenplay twice. In 2018, she won the Best Actress and a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Asian Film Awards. Most recently, Chang won Best Actress at the 2023 Golden Horse Awards for *A Light Never Goes Out*, marking her third win in the acting category.



Beyond her compelling performances, Chang began directing in 1981 and has since directed 14 films, including notable works like *Tempting Heart*, *20 30 40* and *Love Education*. Dedicated in promoting the film industry, Chang currently serves as a member of the Film Development Fund Advisory Committee in Hong Kong and was the chairperson of the Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival Executive Committee from 2014 to 2017.



**Kenny Bee** (Tung) is a prominent Hong Kong singer, musician, and actor. As a founding member of the 1970s Hong Kong band, Wynners, the group played a pivotal role in popularizing Western pop music in the region, later transitioning to Cantonese songs in the early 1980s.

Bee expanded his career into acting, earning acclaim as the lead in the 1979 romantic drama *The Story of a Small Town*. In 1983, he returned to Hong Kong and starred in the romantic

comedy *Let's Make Laugh*, which became the third highest- grossing film in Hong Kong that year.

With nearly fifty years of experience as an actor and singer, Kenny Bee has been honored with the prestigious Golden Needle Award twice – first in 1988 with Wynners and then as a solo artist in 2016 – recognizing his significant contributions to the music industry.

**Sally Yeh** (Stool) is a renowned Hong Kong Cantopop singer and actress. She began her singing career in the early 1980s, relocating from Taiwan to Hong Kong to further pursue her dreams as a vocalist, and has since released thirty studio albums.

In 1984, Sally released her debut song "Ten Past Midnight," written by singer-songwriter George Lam. The ballad not only became an instant hit but also earned the newcomer a Top Ten Golden Songs award that year. As her



singing career flourished, Yeh also became a sought-after leading lady in the film industry, co-starring in movies such as *Cupid One*, *Shanghai Blues*, and director Tsui Hark's *Peking Opera Blues*, which she received a Best Actress nomination at the Hong Kong Film Awards.

## **PRODUCTION CREDITS**

#### CAST

Shu Tung Stool Uncle Twenty Chicken Fung

#### CREW

Produced & Directed by Screenplay by Cinematography Music by Editing Production Designer Costume Designer Sound Sylvia Chang Kenny Bee Sally Yeh Ching Tien Loletta Lee

Tsui Hark John Chan & To Kwok Wai Ngor Chi Kwan James Wong Siu Sum Chew Hing Yee Ah Yeung Ngan-Ying Poon Shek-Kei Kwong



# **ABOUT FILM MOVEMENT**

Founded in 2002, Film Movement is a North American distributor of award-winning independent and foreign films based in New York City. It has released more than 300 feature films culled from prestigious film festivals worldwide including the Oscar-nominated films *Theeb* (2016) and *Corpus Christi* (2020). Film Movement's theatrical releases include American independent films, documentaries, and foreign-language arthouse titles. Its catalog includes works by directors such as Ryusuke Hamaguchi, Lee Isaac Chung, Hirokazu Kore-eda, Maren Ade, Jessica Hausner, Ciro Guerra, Bertrand Bonello and Mélanie Laurent.

In 2015, Film Movement launched its reissue label Film Movement Classics, featuring new restorations released theatrically as well as on digital platforms, Blu-ray and DVD, including films by such noted directors as Ang Lee, Chen Kaige, Luchino Visconti, Stanley Kwan, Peter Greenaway, Bille August, Marleen Gorris, Takeshi Kitano, Arturo Ripstein, King Hu, Lee Chang Dong, Hideo Gosha and Sergio Corbucci.

For more information, please visit: www.filmmovement.com.