



Organised by the Confucius Institute

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PRESSS RELEASE

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CHINA TO INVADE WALES THIS OCTOBER

Visiting cinemas across Wales this October, China Classic Film Festival will be celebrating 60 years of Classic Chinese Film

October 1st marks the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the People's Republic of China and will be a cause for great celebration across the world. The Confucius Institute based at the University of Wales Lampeter is inviting the people of Wales to share in the festivities by offering a national Wales film festival celebrating 60 years of Chinese films.

China Classic Film Festival will run at Aberystwyth Arts Centre Cinema from the 15th to 30th of October.

The festival's director, Vivian Zheng, told us, "We are all very excited about this festival and we have tried very hard to bring a balanced mix of both older much loved classic films as well as more contemporary films to the festival, but it's not been easy as we have so many to choose from!"

Despite these difficulties, there will be some twelve films shown during the festival at specially chosen town and city venues across Wales in Cardiff, Swansea, Carmarthen, Milford Haven, Cardigan, Lampeter, Haverfordwest and

Colwyn Bay. “We wanted to bring the festival to as much of Wales as possible, with the intention of opening up the genre to people that would otherwise have to travel miles to enjoy this kind of film,” said Zheng.

The films on offer are multi-award-winning films drawn from a wide range of genres, including drama, thriller, comedy, musical, martial arts and romance. The emphasis has been placed on films with strong characters and engaging storylines which can be enjoyed by audiences with no prior knowledge of Chinese culture or history.

As well as the regular film screenings, the festival will also feature guest speaker talks to film societies, film workshops for school children, free screenings and two premieres for Wales: Gu Changwei’s “And the Spring Comes” and Lu Chuan’s “City of Life and Death.” These are both highly praised new films from two of the most noted directors to have emerged in China in recent years. Lu Chuan will be attending the festival to introduce “City of Life and Death” and hold a master class with film and media students from three Welsh Universities.

The festival is somewhat unique in Wales and is set to be a colourful affair that will no doubt appeal to a broad range of interests and film goes all over Wales. This is an event not to be missed.

Tickets can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre ticket office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

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Notes to editors:

Further information is available from Rachel Taylor on 01970 622894 email rst@aber.ac.uk

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Further Aberystwyth Arts Centre press releases can be found at www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/press.shtml

Visit www.chinaclassicfestival.com for more information.