

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
March 1987

NEW FILMS FROM PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA BEGIN AT MoMA APRIL 3

Huang Shijian's controversial The Black Cannon Incident (1985) and Chen Kaige's seminal Yellow Earth (1984) are included in a series of eight recent innovative and critical Chinese films opening on Friday, April 3, at The Museum of Modern Art. Huang Jianzhong's A Good Woman/ A Girl of a Good Family (1985) inaugurates PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA: THE NEW GENERATION at 6:00 p.m., preceded by Zhang Nuanxin's Sacrificed Youth (1985) at 2:30 p.m.

The exhibition includes works by the artistically bold "fifth generation" of Chinese filmmakers, recent graduates of the Beijing Film Academy, and the slightly older "fourth generation" of graduates. Among the latter, who have been strongly influenced by their younger colleagues, are the directors of A Good Woman and Sacrificed Youth, as well as Xie Fei, whose A Girl from Hunan (1986) will also be presented. These three films explore the changing position of women in Chinese society from a female protagonist's point-of-view. Another work in the series by a "fourth generation" director, Yan Xueshu's Wild Mountains (1985), is also being presented as part of this year's NEW DIRECTORS/NEW FILMS and is a penetrating study of sexual roles in rural society.

Works by "fifth generation" filmmakers to be screened at the Museum include Yellow Earth, The Black Cannon Incident, and Tian

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Zhuangzhuang's On the Hunting Ground (1985). In the experimental Yellow Earth, which was shown in NEW DIRECTORS/NEW FILMS in 1986, Chen Kaige ushered in an era of stylized realism, creating a strong visual relationship between the characters and the land. The Black Cannon Incident, which has caused considerable controversy among the Chinese film and literary press, is Huang Shijian's satirical critique of bureaucracy and the abuse of authority. On the Hunting Ground uses imagery and landscape to represent violence and oppression.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA: THE NEW GENERATION continues through April 12 in The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1 (complete schedule attached). The exhibition has been organized by Geoffrey Gilmore and Robert Rosen of the UCLA Film, Television and Radio Archive, Los Angeles, in association with China Film Export and Import Corporation, Beijing. The series was organized for The Museum of Modern Art by Adrienne Mancina, curator in the Department of Film.

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For additional press information and photographic materials, contact Howard Feinstein, film press representative, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9752.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA: THE NEW GENERATION

April 3-12, 1987

The Museum of Modern Art, New York
The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1

All films with English subtitles.

Schedule

Friday, April 3

2:30 p.m.: Sacrificed Youth/ Qingchun Ji. 1985. Zhang Nuanxin. 100 min.

6:00 p.m.: A Good Woman/ A Girl of a Good Family/ Liangjia Funu. 1985. Huang Jianzhong. 110 min.

Saturday, April 4

2:00 p.m.: Yellow Earth/ Huang Tudi. 1984. Chen Kaige. 89 min.

5:00 p.m.: The Black Cannon Incident/ Heipao Shijian. 1985. Huang Jianxin. 107 min.

Sunday, April 5

2:00 p.m.: A Good Woman/ A Girl of a Good Family/ Liangjia Funu. See Friday, April 3, 6:00.

5:00 p.m.: Sacrificed Youth/ Qingchun Ji. See Friday, April 3, 2:30.

Monday, April 6

2:30 p.m.: Yellow Earth/ Huang Tudi. See Saturday, April 4, 2:00.

6:00 p.m.: On the Hunting Ground/ Liechang Zhasha. 1985. Tian Zhuangzhuang. 83 min.

Tuesday, April 7

2:30 p.m.: On the Hunting Ground/ Liechang Zhasha. See Monday, April 6, 6:00.

6:00 p.m.: In the Wild Mountains/ Ye Shan. 1985. Yan Xuesue. 105 min.

Saturday, April 11

2:00 p.m.: A Girl from Hunan/ Xiang Nu Xiao Xiao. 1986. Xie Fei. 110 min.

5:00 p.m.: The Black Cannon Incident/ Heipao Shijian. See Saturday, April 4, 5:00.

Sunday, April 12

2:00 p.m.: In the Wild Mountains/ Ye Shan. See Tuesday, April 7, 6:00.

5:00 p.m.: A Girl from Hunan/ Xiang Nu Xiao Xiao. See Saturday, April 11, 2:30.