

FROM THE PRODUCER OF
BODYGUARDS & ASSASSINS
AND THE DIRECTOR OF
INFERNAL AFFAIRS TRILOGY

AN **ANDREW LAU** FILM

A **PETER HO-SUN CHAN** PRODUCTION

血滴子 **THE GUILLOTINES**

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THE CREW

Producer : **Peter Ho-Sun CHAN**
Jojo HUI Yuet-chun
Director : **Andrew LAU**
Scriptwriter : **Aubrey LAM**
: **Joyce CHAN**
Action Choreographer : **LEE Tat-Chiu**
Art Director : **LAU Sai-Wan**
Costume Designer : **Dora NG**

THE CAST

HUANG Xiaoming as Wolf (The Rebel)
Ethan JUAN as Leng (The Captain)
LI Yuchun as Mu (The Daughter)
Shawn YUE as Du (The Secret Agent)
Boran JING as San (The Novice)
Jimmy WANG Yu as Gong-E (squad commander)
KING Shih-Chieh as Jiang (Green Army commander)

PRODUCTION INFO

Production Budget : US\$15 million
Production Status : Completed
Release Date : 27 Dec, 2012 (Hong Kong)

INT'L SALES

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INTRODUCTION

Hailed as the deadliest weapon ever invented, the mere mention of its name strikes terror into the hearts of men. Long shrouded in mystery and designed to launch from a distance, it locks onto the target's head, its internal blades decapitate the victim with the yank of a chain. A weapon of choice for elite fighters, THE GUILLOTINE has their enemies beg for mercy.

SYNOPSIS

During the Manchurian-ruled Qing Dynasty, Emperor Yong Zheng established a secret assassination squad known as the Guillotines to eliminate all who opposed him. Once heavily favored by the Emperor, the Guillotines are deemed expendable once Emperor Qian Long ascends to the throne and adopts Western ideas and technology. To consolidate his power under a new regime, the Emperor continues to use the Guillotines to persecute the conquered Han Chinese in a reign of terror and oppression.

Led by master fighter Leng, the top ranked guillotine squad consists of five young warriors: Mu, San, Tai, Hutu and Buka. Serving the Qing Court unquestioningly, they have never failed in 348 missions to eliminate their targets. But their success has made them arrogant and complacent.

Their next mission is to eliminate Wolf and his Shepherd gang. During the operation, the squad manages to trap Wolf. Just as they are about to execute him, the squad commander orders that he be captured alive. He secretly plans to use Wolf as a pawn in his bid for power. Wolf's gang of rebels ambushes the Guillotines in their moment of hesitation. Wolf escapes, taking Mu hostage.

With reports that Wolf has fled to the outer frontiers, the squad tracks him to a remote village outpost. On the other hand, the Emperor has sent his most trusted agent Du for the same mission and most importantly, to end the era of the Guillotines by replacing cold weapons with firearms. If only they make one false move, they will become the hunted. Facing annihilation, Leng and his Guillotines must outfight and outwit enemies from both sides.

PRODUCER

PETER HO-SUN CHAN

A leading figure in the Asian film industry, Peter Ho-Sun Chan has been able to merge art and entertainment with commercial and critical success, winning an impressive 162 film awards out of 262 nominations. He co-founded United Filmmakers Organization (UFO) and produced a string of commercial hits such as *Tom, Dick & Hairy* (1993), *He's a Woman, She's a Man* (1994) and *Comrades, Almost a Love Story* (1997). His directorial debut *Alan and Eric: Between Hello and Goodbye* (1991) was awarded Best Film of the Year by the Directors' Guild of Hong Kong, as was *He* for which Chan also won Best Director. *Comrades* won a record 9 Hong Kong Film Awards and was voted one of the 10 Best Movies of 1997 by TIME magazine. Subsequently, Chan directed *The Love Letter* (1999) for Steven Spielberg's Dreamworks SKG. In the same year, he was voted one of the top 10 directors to watch by Variety, in conjunction with Sundance Film Festival. In 2000, he established Applause Pictures and produced some of the most original films for the Asian audience, including *Jan Dara* (2001), *One Fine Spring Day* (2001), *The Eye* series (2002, 2004, 2005), *Three* series (2002, 2004), *Golden Chicken 1 & 2* (2002, 2003) and *McDull, The Alumni* (2006).

His groundbreaking musical *Perhaps Love* (2005) became the closing film at the 62nd Venice Int'l Film Festival, and was one of the year's top-grossing films in Greater China. It was honored with a record 29 awards and was selected as Hong Kong's Best Foreign Language Film entry to the Oscars. *The Warlords* (2007) grossed US\$40 million across Asia and won 8 prizes in HKFA, most notably Best Film and Best Director. He next produced two blockbusters, Derek Yee's *Protégé* (2007) and Teddy Chen's *Bodyguards and Assassins* (2009). The latter garnered a spectacular US\$50 million in Asia alone and scored 8 HKFA awards, including Best Film and Best Director. His latest producing-directing effort, *Wu Xia* (2011), was the only Chinese language film to be invited into the Official Selection in the 64th Cannes Film Festival, and scored 8 major trophies in 3 major film awards, including 2 Best Art Direction, 2 Best Cinematography, and 2 Best Original Score. Chan currently produces the Andrew Lau directed action thriller *The Guillotines* (2012) as well as Aubrey Lam's *The Truth of Beauty* (2013).

JOJO HUI YUET-CHUN

A versatile producer in her own right, Jojo Hui Yuet-chun began working as a 1st assistant director in Samson Chiu's *Yesteryou, Yesterme, Yesterday* (1993) and soon found herself in numerous film projects. She collaborated with Peter Chan on many of his earlier films, including the award-winning *Allan and Eric: Between Hello and Goodbye* (1991) and *He's a Woman, She's a Man* (1994). She also served as associate producer and assistant director on acclaimed films such as Chan's *Comrades, Almost a Love Story* (1997), Teddy Chen's *Purple Storm* (1999) (which she co-wrote) and *The Accidental Spy* (2000) starring Jackie Chan. Hui worked with international renowned filmmakers such as Wayne Wang on *Chinese Box* (1997) as assistant director, and Tsui Hark on *Knock Off* (1998) as a casting director.

Having joined Applause Pictures in 2002, Hui has since produced a string of smash hits such as *Jan Dara* (2001), *The Eye* (2001) (associate producer-writer), *Three: Going Home* (2001) (producer-writer), *Golden Chicken* series (2001, 2003), *The Eye 2* (2004) (producer-writer) and *The Eye 10* (2005). She moved on to producing blockbusters such as *Perhaps Love* (2005) (associate producer), *The Warlords* (2007) (co-producer, writer), *Bodyguards and Assassins* (2009), *Wu Xia* (2011), and the upcoming *The Guillotines* (2012).

DIRECTOR

ANDREW LAU

Most renowned internationally for his multiple record smasher *Infernal Affairs* (2002) which spawned 2 equally successful sequels and an US remake as *The Departed* (2006) directed by Martin Scorsese, Andrew Lau started his career as a cinematographer in films like Wong Kar-Wai's *As Tears Go By* (1988) and *Chungking Express* (1994). In 1996, He established BoB and Partners and went on to direct a string of box office hits such as the *Young and Dangerous* series (1996, 1997, 1998, 2000), *The Storm Riders* (1998), *A Man Called Hero* (1999) and *The Duel* (2000). The *Young and Dangerous* series has become one of the all time most successful film series in Hong Kong and marked a very important page in Hong Kong pop culture history.

In 2002, Lau established his own production company Basic Pictures, whose first film ***Infernal Affairs*** pulled in a massive HK\$55 million in the local box office to become the 5th highest grossing Hong Kong film of all time. The film not only propelled Lau to international fame but also won 19 awards, including 3 Best Film, 3 Best Director, 2 Best Screenplay, 3 Best Actor for Tony Leung and 3 Best Supporting Actor for Anthony Wong. Other successful films he directed under the Basic Pictures banner include ***Initial D*** (2005), ***Confession of Pain*** (2006) and ***Daisy*** (2006). In 2007, he directed his first Hollywood film ***The Flock***, starring Richard Gere and Claire Danes.

Lau's latest films include ***Legend of the Fist: The Return of Chen Zhen*** (2010) starring Donnie Yen, and the romantic drama ***A Beautiful Life*** (2011) starring Shu Qi. His next Hollywood project is titled ***Revenge of the Green Dragons***, to be executive-produced by Martin Scorsese.

CAST

HUANG XIAOMING (as Wolf)

A mysterious spiritual leader of the Shepherd gang, Wolf dreams of overthrowing the Qing Dynasty and restoring the past glory of the Han Chinese. With an ever-growing number of followers, he represents an immediate threat to the Emperor and is the top most wanted terrorist.

In a career of only 10 years, Huang Xiaoming has become one of the most sought actors in pan Asia, starring in 11 films and 19 TV dramas. Having worked with some of the most renowned Chinese filmmakers, his notable film works include Chen Kaige's epic ***Sacrifice*** (2010), Wilson Yip's martial arts blockbuster ***Ip Man 2*** (2010), espionage drama ***The Message*** (2009), Dante Lam's action thriller ***The Sniper*** (2009) and Feng Xiaogang's action extravaganza ***The Banquet*** (2006). He was nominated in Asian Film Awards and Hundred Flowers Awards for his menacing portrayal of a Japanese general in ***The Message***. His versatility in acting proves that he is more than just a pretty face.

ETHAN JUAN (as Leng)

Skillful and experienced fighter who shows immense quality of leadership, Leng's charisma and imperturbation alone has won over the trust of his teammates. He represents the heart and soul of the Guillotines, and vice versa.

A teen heartthrob in Hong Kong, China and Taiwan, Ethan Juan was a Taiwan-born model before he rose to fame in hit TV dramas ***Wayward Kenting, Fated to Love You, and My Queen***. He was named King of Idol Drama in 2008. In 2010, He starred as the main lead in the gang drama ***Monga*** (2010), which went on to become Taiwan's highest grossing Chinese film of the year. His sinister portrayal of a rising gangster who would sacrifice loyalty for power earned him the Best Leading Male Actor in the Taiwan Golden Horse Awards for his first award nomination.

SHAWN YUE (as Agent Du)

Loyal and obedient, persistent and determined, Agent Du is bounded to his code of honor. Being the most trusted man of the Emperor doesn't make him arrogant. When it comes to following orders, he won't show any hesitation.

A highly prolific young actor, Shawn Yue has already starred in close to 40 films in a short career span of 10 years. His notable film works include Andrew Lau's ***Infernal Affairs*** trilogy (2002-2003), ***Initial D*** (2005) and ***Legend of the Fist: The Return of Chen Zhen*** (2010), Wilson Yip's ***Dragon Tiger Gate*** (2006), Benny Chan's ***Invisible Target*** (2007), Tran Anh Hung's ***I Come with the Rain*** (2010), Su Chao-pin's ***Reign of Assassins*** (2010), the Pang brothers' ***The Child's Eye*** (2010). In 2008, he was awarded best actor in the Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival for ***Rule #1*** (2008).

LI YUCHUN (as Mu)

The daughter of squad commander, Mu is endeavoring but reckless, due to her desperate need for her father's admiration. Such behavior has put her teammates in occasional predicament during mission.

Featured as one of Asia's heroines on the cover of Time Magazine shortly after her triumph in the nationwide American-Idol like singing contest Super Girl in 2005, Li Yuchun is undoubtedly one of China's most popular singers and iconic figures today. Her instant fame brought along not only a thriving music career with national tour concerts, albums and innumerable awards, but also attracted a lot of attention from the commercial world including deals with many notable companies like Coca-Cola, Crest and Hewlett Packard. She is also the first Mainland China pop star to have a postage stamp issued by the China National Philatelic Corporation bearing her image. Her unorthodox image and unique style has captivated millions of fans across the nation. In 2009, she made her feature film debut in the action blockbuster ***Bodyguards and Assassins***, which earn her 3 nominations in Best Supporting Actress, Best New Performer and Best Original Film Song categories in the Hong Kong Film Awards. She will next be seen in Tsui Hark's 3D martial arts adventure ***Flying Swords of Dragon Gate*** (2011).

BORAN JING (as San)

The youngest among the Guillotine squad, San possesses every quality of a novice – naïve, dashing, curious, improvised. Nevertheless, he handles his guillotine with assurance and fights his enemies with confidence.

A teen idol at the mere age of 22, Boran Jing won a popular signing contest in China and instantly became a red hot new artist thanks to his top-selling albums and television commercials. He made his acting debut in the highly-successful romantic comedy ***Hot Summer Days*** (2010), playing alongside Jacky Cheung, Nicholas Tse, Daniel Wu and Vivian Hsu, in which he was nominated for the Best New Performer in the Hong Kong Film Awards and won the Best New Performer Award in the Beijing University Student Film Festival. He next appeared in another all-star ensemble drama ***Beginning of the Great Revival*** (2011) and the ***Hot Summer Days*** sequel ***Love in Space*** (2011)

JIMMY WANG YU (as Gong-E)

Chief commander of the Guillotines, Gong-E is utterly devoted to its team and the imperial court. But when the new Emperor plots to scrap the whole team, his loyalty and faith are being shaken, and he will stop it at all cost.

A screen legend in the Asian cinema, Jimmy Wang Yu is widely credited as being the first Hong Kong kung fu star. He joined Shaw Brothers in 1963 and was frequently cast as the leading man in martial arts films by famed director Chang Cheh. Wang shot to fame with ***One Armed Swordsman*** (1967), which was the first film in Hong Kong to reach one million dollars in the box office and spawned three sequels and one spin-off. ***The Chinese Boxer*** (1970), in which Wang directed and starred in, established the kung fu genre that took the world by storm in the 70s. It paved the way for the future kung fu stars such as Bruce Lee and Jackie Chan. With over 70 films under his belt, his notable films also include ***The Assassin*** (1967), ***The Golden Swallow*** (1968), and ***The Invincible Sword*** (1972). He recently returns to the big screen after 13 years in ***Wu Xia*** (2011) and ***Let's Go!*** (2011).

KING SHIH-CHIEH (as Jiang)

Corrupt and impudent commander-in-chief of the Green Army, responsible for the safeguard of the border. Feeling deserted by the Court, Jiang is neither willing to cooperate with the guillotine squad nor bold enough to confront the Shepherd gang.

A highly respectful and skilful actor from Taiwan who was extensively trained as a stage actor before starring in films, King Shih Chieh's scene-stealing performances can be seen in Mike Newell's ***Soursweet*** (1988), Hou Hsiao-hsien's ***A City of Sadness*** (1989), Yim Ho's ***King of Chess*** (1991), Edward Yang's ***A Brighter Summer Day*** (1991), Michael Mak's ***Island of Greed*** (1997), Andrew Lau's ***Born to be King*** (2000), and the recent ***Reign of Assassins*** (2010) produced by John Woo and directed by Su Chao-Bin.

SCRIPTWRITER

AUBREY LAM

Aubrey Lam started as a fulltime scriptwriter for United Filmmakers Organization (UFO) and collaborated with Peter Ho-Sun Chan on his early works such as *The Age of Miracles* (1995), *Yesterday You Yesterday Me* (1996) and *Who's the Woman, Who's the Man* (1996). In 2000, she wrote and directed her first feature *12 Nights*, for which she was nominated for Best Screenplay in the Golden Bauhinia Awards. Her success as a director/scriptwriter carried on in *Hidden Track* (2003) and *Anna & Anna* (2007). Lam continues to work with Chan throughout the years in films such as *Perhaps Love* (2005), *The Warlords* (2007) and the latest *Wu Xia* (2011).

JOYCE CHAN

A Journalism & Communication graduate, Joyce Chan started her career as scriptwriter in Hong Kong's largest television company TVB and participated in numerous popular TV drama series. In 2008, She joined We Pictures and co-wrote the action blockbuster *Bodyguards and Assassins* (2009), whom she was nominated for Best Screenplay in the Hong Kong Film Awards. She also co-wrote *Bruce Lee, My Brother* (2010), *Mr. and Mrs. Incredible* (2011) and *Wu Xia* (2011).

ACTION CHOREOGRAPHER

LEE TAT-CHIU

Lee Tat-Chiu recently won the Best Action Choreography award in the Hong Kong Film Awards for his breathtaking action coordination in Teddy Chen's *Bodyguards and Assassins* (2009). A veteran of the HK action cinema, Lee is best known for his involvement in the sci-fi blockbuster *The Matrix* (1999), in which he serves as personal martial arts coach for Keanu Reeves. He also enjoys a long-term collaboration with director Andrew Lau, responsible for some of the most memorable action sequences in Lau's movies, such as *The Stormriders* (1998), *The Duel* (2000), *Born to be King* (2000), *Bullets of Love* (2001), *The Wesley's Mysterious File* (2002), *Infernal Affairs II* (2003), *The Park* (2003), and *Confession of Pain* (2006).

ART DIRECTOR

LAU SAI-WAN

Having built up an extensive profile in critically acclaimed films like **Center Stage** (1992) and **Xiu Xiu: The Sent-Down Girl** (1998), Lau Sai-Wan shot to fame with his art direction work in Ang Lee's international hit **Lust, Caution** (2007) which also earned him a Best Art Direction nomination in the 44th Golden Horse Awards. He followed up the success with another bigger project, the Hollywood summer blockbuster **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (2008) directed by Rob Cohen. His latest work is the China mega-budget espionage thriller **East Wind Rain** (2010) starring Fan Bingbing.

COSTUME DESIGNER

DORA NG

After graduating from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in fashion design, Dora Ng immediately entered the film industry as the costume designer for Jacob Cheung's **The Twilight of Forbidden City** (1988). To date, Ng has been involved in over 40 productions, including the recent **Storm Warriors** (2009), **CJ7** (2008), **An Empress and the Warriors** (2008), **Re-cycle** (2006). She has garnered 4 HKFAs, 1 Golden Horse Award and a total of 13 nominations for Best Costume and Makeup Design. Her award-winning design work has appeared in Teddy Chen's **Bodyguards and Assassins** (2009) and **Purple Storm** (1999), Peter Ho-Sun Chan's **Perhaps Love** (2005) and **Comrades: Almost a Love Story** (1996), and Samson Chiu's **Golden Chicken** (2002). Ng's latest credits include the Andrew Lau's **Legend of the Fist: The Return of Chen Zhen** (2010) and Chan's martial arts film **Wu Xia** (2011).