

"Sexuality in Chinese Film"
Clarence Fok
Spotlight

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Fri. midnite. Apr. 10 — Sat. midnite. Apr. 18
Sat. 11am. Apr. 11

冒險遊戲

Passion 1995
Directed by Clarence Fok. 1995
Starring: Simon Yam, Tai Wah, Christy Chung, Lai Tai, Teresa Mak Ka-Kie, David Ng Dai-Wai

With echoes of Wong Kar-wai, Clarence Fok herein spins three intersecting tales of longing in a gangster-inflected Hong Kong. The fresh from San Fran Yam arrives to search for his missing girlfriend, Chung, be-decked in a variety of frills, pines for a drug-warlord's legit boy and Mak relentlessly looks for love over the phone. Adorned with coincidence, confusion, and colorful lighting, *Passion 1995* provides a tasty blend of melancholy and action.

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Fri. midnite. Apr. 17 — Sat. midnite. Apr. 25
Sat. 11am. Apr. 18

赤裸羔羊

The Naked Killer
Directed by Clarence Fok. 1992 (88 min)
Written & produced by producer Wong Jing
Starring: Chingmy Yau Suk-Ching, Simon Yam, Tai Wah, Carme Ng Ka-Lai, Hui Sze-Hung

Simon Yam is Tinam, an impotent policeman who can't shoot and vomits at the sight of guns. Finds himself involved with two real leams of lawmen. He falls for Kitty (Chingmy Yau), the apprentice to coldhearted 'older woman' Sister Cindy (Svenwara Madoka). As Cindy teaches Kitty the ways of killing, she also battles her jealous former assistant, Princess (Carrie Ng) and the latter's new partner, Baby (Kelly Yau). Fok and Jing have made a hard boiled hood that revels in and breaks the rules of the game in a way that's empowering and rude and thoroughly entertaining. The women are strong, the men are weak, but the mayhem remains the same. writes Thelma Davis of the **New York Post**

Jackie!! Yay, Jackie!!

* Fri. midnite. Apr. 24 — Sat. midnite. May 2
Sat. 11am. Apr. 25

重案組

Crime Story
Directed by Kirk Wong. 1993
Starring: Jackie Chan, Ken Cheng, Kit Law

In a rare change of pace, this Chan vehicle is a somber crime melodrama, with Chan as a battle-scarred veteran cop driven to the emotional brink by corpse-laden past of his violent professional life. But the sudden kidnapping of a millionaire he has been assigned to protect thwarts efforts at psychological recuperation, and he remains psychically isolated, unresolved. If Jackie's seriousness was new, the spectacular quality of the action sequences are jaw-droppingly familiar, the martial arts are some of his best, the negotiation of city-size props are winningly and reliably exciting. For his efforts, Jackie won the 1994 Golden Horse for Best Actor, Taipei's equivalent of the Oscar.

We would like to thank MIRAMAX for their generosity in donating us this print as use for a fund raiser for our Youth Media Camp!

Drama Series

◆ Fri. midnite. May 1 — Sat. midnite. May 9
Sat. 11am. May 2

半生緣

Eighteen Springs
Directed by Ann Hui. 1997 (125 min)
Starring: Leon Lai, Anita Mui, Wu Chien-Lien, Go Yoo, Annie Wu, Huang Lei, Wang Zhewen, Liu Changwen

Set in the sumptuously-rendered Shanghai of the 1930's, Ann Hui's new film is a fascinating period melodrama of doomed cross-class love. Wu Chien-lien plays a Shanghai factory worker who gradually falls for the Leon Lai's Shujun, the son of a wealthy family. Their relationship proves tumultuous as they both succumb to... and attempt to evade, familial pressure in a reworking of classic romantic-melodramatic style. A moving film of love and loss, *Eighteen Springs* is characteristically Hui... expert storytelling, informed by an intelligent consideration of form. Ace supporting work from Anita Mui and Go Yoo.

E Fri. midnite. May 8 — Sat. midnite. May 16
Sat. 11am. May 9

南海十三郎

Mad Phoenix
Directed by Clifton Ko Chi-Sum. 1997 (110 min)
Starring: Tse Kwan-Ho, Poon Chan-Leung, So Yuk-Wah, Ng Yi-Lai, James Wong Jim

Cantonese Opera, in all its splendors, spills across the screen in this delightful, richly detailed, near-musical portrait of one of its most legendary figures, Nam Ho Sui Sam Long, was a famous song writer and playwright whose life and work, extending from the successes of 1930's to the sad decline of 1980's, intertwined with the leading opera figures of his day. Informed by a sense of justice and a strong aesthetic, Sup Sam Long's life was peppered with his passionate gestures and headstrong ways, and *Mad Phoenix* charts them winningly. A story teller/narrator sings and recites his life story and Tse Kwan-ho effectively embodies the opera legend in a performance that would win him **Taiwan's Golden Horse Best Actor award**.



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H Farewell, Charlie!!!

H Fri. midnite. May 15 — Sat. midnite. May 23
Sat. 11am. May 16

神偷諜影

Downtown Torpedos
Directed by Teddy Chan Tak-Sun
Starring: Jordan Chan Siu-Chun, Charlie Young, Chor Nei, Takachi Kaneshiro (Gum Sing-Mo), Ken Wong Ho-Hei (Enzo), Theresa Le Yi-Hung, Alex Fong Chung-Sun

In this Hong Kong techno-thriller, a zesty, Mission: Impossible-type action bonanza, a specially trained squad of experts must defeat a nefarious gang of counterfeiter. Armed with a goody range of computer gizmos and all the contemporary youthful star power HK can provide, the heroic cast surfs through some of the most energetic, giddy action scenarios in recent memory. Pure movie pleasure, guaranteed more popcorn-satisfying than Hollywood's seasonal actioners. *Downtown Torpedos* is giddy, must-see early summer fun.

H Fri. midnite. May 22 — Sat. midnite. May 30
Sat. 11am. May 23

H 熱血最強

Task Force
Directed by Patrick Leung. 1997 (110 min)
Starring: Charlie Young, Chor-Nei, Leo Koo Kai-Kai, Eric Tsang Chi-Wai, Karen Morris, with a cameo by John Woo

Charlie Young's breezy last screen performance before her premature retirement, as Fanny, a call girl with a credibility problem, compelled as she always is to twist the truth, grants this delightfully fresh snoragoboard of a movie, a genre-defying gem that escalates from a light police comedy to incorporate melodrama... crazy comedy, gun lights, and homages a-Woo, with John Woo himself granting permission with his cameo appearance. Fanny gets involved with police functionary Roy Lam, played by Leo Ku, while waiting for her hitman boyfriend to take her away to Europe.

The Classics: God of Gamblers series

○ Fri. midnite. May 29 — Sat. midnite. June 6
Sat. 11am. May 30

○ 賭神3之少年賭神

God of Gamblers 3: The Early Stage
Director: Wong Jing
Starring: Leon Lai Ping, Anita Yuen Wing-Teo, Jordan Chan Siu-Chun, Tsui Kam-Kong, Gigi Leung/Irene Chan Lee, Michael Wong

The prequel to the God of Gamblers series in which we discover the secret to the master's powers, and the reasons for the Jade ring, slicked back hair and his chocolate habit.

○ Fri. midnite. June 5 — Sat. midnite. June 13
Sat. 11am. June 6

○ 賭神

God of Gamblers
Directed by Wong Jing
Starring: Chow Yun-Fat, Joey Wong (Wang Tzu-Hsien), Andy Lau Tak-Wah

The original. The God, possessed with an invincible clairvoyance that renders him an ace gambler, is injured in an accident and loses his memory, prompting a small time hustler (Andy Lau) and his girlfriend to try to take advantage of his power. The classic role of the God became one of Chow Yun-Fat's signature roles, and the injured child-like gambler gave Chow an actor's field day. The part inspired many imitations.



Downtown Torpedos

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賭聖

○ Fri. midnite. June 12 — Sat. midnite. June 20
Sat. 11am. June 13

○ 賭俠

All for the Winners
Directed by Corey Yuen Kwai, Jeff Lau Chun-Wan
Starring: Stephen Chiu, Ng Man-Tat, Cheung Man, Sandra Ng, Kwun Yu

In this parody of God of Gamblers, Mao, an innocent villager with X-ray vision comes to Hong Kong where he is exploited by his ne'er do well cousin. This classic started the great Stephen Chiu on his comedy career and was almost as successful as the original it parodied.

○ Fri. midnite. June 19 — Sat. midnite. June 27
Sat. 11am. June 20

○ 賭俠

God of Gamblers II
Directed by Wong Jing
Starring: Stephen Chow, Andy Lau, Cheung Man

Wong Jing, director of God of Gamblers recruited it cast for his own parody in which the God's disciple must fight his imitators and vengeance seeking bad guys. Seen as more screwball than the never less comedic original.

○ Fri. midnite. June 26 — Sat. midnite. July 4
Sat. 11am. June 27

○ 賭神2

God of Gamblers Return
Directed by Wong Jing
Starring: Chow Yun-Fat, Tony Leung Ka-Fai, Wu Chien-Lien (Ng Sin Lin), Chingmy Yau Suk-Ching

Chow Yun-Fat returns. The God's retirement in the South of France is destroyed by the evil Qu. Chow's pregnant wife is murdered but before dying, asks the God to not reveal his identity. Off to Mainland China, he flees, wherein he becomes involved in a gang war, before returning to avenge his wife's death. A movie that is wonderfully all over the map, geographically as well as generally.

1998 The Newest Edition

▽ Fri. midnite. July 3 — Sat. midnite. July 11
Sat. 11am. July 4

黑金

Island of Greed
Directed by Michael Mak Tong-Kiu. 1997 (126 min)
Produced by Johnny Mak Tong-Hung
Starring: Andy Lau Tak-Wah, Tony Leung Ka-Fai, Patsy Sun, Annie Wu

In this action packed expose of the corruption of Taiwanese politics, Andy Lau plays a government inspector sworn to stop underworld kingpin Tony Leung whose treacherous ways are easing him into politics. *Island of Greed* is a series of expertly staged, over the top action free-for-all, as Lau's character — to spectacular effect — works to thwart Leung's attempted political climb. Dominated by chase scenes and gun battles, *Island of Greed* is visceral yet surprisingly moving, owing to Leung's ace performance.

▽ Fri. midnite. July 10 — Sat. midnite. July 18
Sat. 11am. July 11

暗花

The Longest Night
(tentative)
Directed by Patrick Yau Tai-Chi. 1998 (84 min)
Starring: Tony Leung Chiu-Wai, Lau Chung-Wan, Maggie Su Mei-Ki

A violent, gritty thriller about warring gangs set among the casinos of Macau. Two ganglords, fighting for control of the casinos, are exhausted after eight months of war. Their attempts at some sort of settlement, however, are explosively undermined by hired killers, seeking the bounty for one of their deaths. An uneasy alliance must form between the once enemies if the gang war is to end.



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