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To beget, produce or create; originate and conceive using, involving, or encompassing multiple media, using a combination of moving and still pictures, sound, music and words, especially in computers or entertainment.

Main Entry: pro-cre-ate

- : To beget and conceive.
- : To produce or create; originate.

Main Entry: mul·ti·me·dia

- : using, involving, or encompassing
- : transmission that combine media of

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pro:create.multimedia explores sight and sound to visually and aurally enhance our clients productions.

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INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the entire ActionFest crew, we welcome you to the inaugural edition of ActionFest, the first and only film festival to showcase and celebrate action movies and those who make them. We are grateful to the many talented and hardworking volunteers who contributed so much of themselves to bring this festival to life. And we are grateful to the people of Asheville, NC who have embraced our vision for the first ever action movie festival.

We love action films. A great action movie gives a viewer a feeling of exhilaration he can't get from any other kind of entertainment experience. Action films are the most popular films at the box office, yet they seldom get the critical respect or festival exposure they deserve. So we created ActionFest. ActionFest's mission is to a) celebrate the unsung heroes who make action films great, the people who put the "A" in action — the stunt men, the technicians, the directors, and b) give audiences in Asheville, NC the best contemporary action cinema the world has to offer.

Of course, to pay a fitting tribute to action films we must honor a legend of action cinema. And who better to honor in the inaugural festival than the iconic Chuck Norris. When Chuck fought Bruce Lee in WAY OF THE DRAGON, nearly 40 years ago, he began an amazing cinematic legacy that continued through the likes of GOOD GUYS WEAR BLACK, CODE OF SILENCE, the MISSING IN ACTION films, INVASION U.S.A., and then in television with the now-classic WALKER, TEXAS RANGER.

Chuck defines what action is all about: he's brave; he's tough; he's decisive, and he's a patriot. More importantly, he's a man with the courage of his convictions, someone who does what he believes is right, regardless of the consequences. He's a hero in real life as well as on-screen. ActionFest is honored to present its first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award in Action Cinema to Chuck Norris. We are also pleased to announce that all profits from this year's festival will be donated to Kickstart Kids, Chuck and Gena Norris' charitable foundation whose goal is to build strong moral character in our youth through martial arts training. Please join us in honoring Chuck Norris on Sunday, April 18 at our closing night awards ceremony, with a special retrospective of some of his best work as well as a few surprises that you will not want to miss!

Last, but not least, we are happy to launch ActionFest in Asheville, NC, a great city that deserves a great action film festival. This is a city that values its individuality and its independence and has shown great support for an innovative festival like ActionFest. We hope everyone is Asheville has a great a time at the first annual ActionFest, and we look forward to growing this festival with you in the years to come.

So now that ActionFest is finally here, all that's left is for everyone to enjoy the show. So with that in mind, it's time for Lights!

Regards.

Bill Banowsky

Aaron Norris

Dennis Berman

Founders, ActionFest



FOUNDERS

Bill Banowsky

Bill Banowsky, co-creator of ActionFest, began his career in the film industry in 2001 when he co-founded Magnolia Pictures, a film distribution company based in Austin, Texas and New York City. In addition to serving as CEO of Magnolia Pictures, from 2004 through 2007 Mr. Banowsky also served as CEO of Landmark Theatres, the nation's largest theater chain devoted exclusively to art and independent film, with 57 theaters in 23 major markets.

Mr. Banowsky remains associated with both Magnolia and Landmark, and is also CEO of Carolina Cinemas, a cinema chain he opened in 2008. Carolina Cinemas owns and operates 52 screens in Asheville, Charlotte, Raleigh, and Garner, North Carolina, including The Carolina Asheville. host venue for ActionFest Film Festival.

In 2009 Carolina Cinemas completely renovated the former Hollywood 14 to create The Carolina Asheville, a one of a kind movie theater featuring the most diverse film selection of any cinema in North Carolina. The theater boasts an entirely new interior space, created by renowned Asheville artist and spatial sculptor Douglas Madaras.

Mr. Banowsky is also the executive producer of "Casino Jack and the United States of Money," a documentary film by Academy Award winning director Alex Gibney, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2010.

Prior to entering the film industry, Mr. Banowsky worked in the radio broadcasting industry, serving as executive vice president and general counsel of Capstar Broadcasting, Chancellor Media and AMFM Inc, where he led merger and acquisitions efforts. Mr. Banowsky has served as an executive officer of two NYSE companies and currently serves on the board of directors of LIN TV Corp. (NYSE: TVL).

Mr. Banowsky was born in Los Angeles, California, graduated from SMU School of Law in 1986 and practiced law for 10 years prior to joining Capstar. He currently lives in Austin, Texas with his wife Susan Denmon Banowsky. Bill and Susan have four children: Cameron (21), Will (17), Claire (15) and Meredith (12).

Aaron Norris

Born in the Los Angeles area, Aaron Norris was seven years old when he began mastering the martial arts. After years of dedication and training, he became the National Champion and remained a nationally ranked tournament fighter for years. A 9th degree Black Belt, Mr. Norris proudly holds the current title, President of the United Fighting Arts Federation (UFAF), a worldwide organization of more than 3,000 black belts.

At the young age of 17, Mr. Norris volunteered to serve his country in the U.S. Army. He was training in the Non-Commission Officers Academy when his older brother Wieland was in action while serving in Vietnam. Wieland received the Silver Star for bravery in service to his country. Mr. Norris went on to serve three years in Korea, commanding a platoon near the DMZ. Today, Mr. Norris is actively involved with the organization TAPS — Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors. Its mission is to provide help, hope and healing to all who are grieving the death of a loved one who bravely served in the United States Military (www.TAPS.org).

With his extensive military and martial art experience, Mr. Norris has been an extremely influential force in the creation of action films and television for more than 30 years. Learning the craft inside and out, he's made his mark as a stunt man, stunt coordinator, actor, writer, director and producer. His early writing and producing credits include "Silent Rage," "Lone Wolf McQuade" and "Invasion U.S.A." He moved to the director's chair for the features "Braddock: Missing In Action III," "Platoon Leader," "Delta Force II," "Sidekicks," "Top Dog," "Forest Warrior," and many more.

Always the entrepreneur, Mr. Norris ventured into international film distribution with his company Tanglewood Entertainment. Tanglewood produced and distributed more than a dozen feature films.

Of all his accomplishments, Mr. Norris is most best known for the incredible success of the hit CBS series, "Walker, Texas Ranger,"



City of Asheville, NC

Office of the Mayor

March 22, 2010

Greetings and Salutations!

On behalf of the City of Asheville, it is my honor to welcome you to this great city for the

Asheville's arts community has a long-standing tradition of individuality, diversity and independence. ActionFest demonstrates to the international film community that Asheville is one of the most film and arts friendly cities in all of North America. ActionFest brings in nearly 30 films from over 10 countries, providing Asheville a unique and diverse selection of action films. The City is very excited to have action legend Chuck Norris to Asheville for his Lifetime Achievement Award.

We sincerely hope that the ActionFest experience will bring a new audience of filmmakers and movie lovers to appreciate Ashevitle as one of the best places to view or make a movie. ActionFest is the first film festival of its kind and the City of Ashevitle is extremely honored to be the host.

Thank you to the filmmakers, staff, audience and everyone involved for their support of Asheville cinema and we hope everyone has a wonderful time at ActionFeati

Regards.

Terry M. Belfirmy Mayor, City of Asheville

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Dennis R. Berman

which ran for nine seasons and

203 episodes, Mr. Norris was at

the helm as executive producer

and show runner, as well as

directing numerous episodes.

He also created, directed and

produced other series for CBS.

including "Sons of Thunder," and

the features "President Man" and

Most recently, Mr. Norris

produced the 2009 film "Not

Easily Broken" for Sony/Screen

production on a new animated TV

series, and several other TV and

cherish their 29 year marriage.

They share three grown children: Meagan, an accomplished actress: Amanda, a business

woman in finance and Tyler,

currently in his senior year at

Southern Methodist University

Mr. Norris and his wife Becki

Gems. He is currently in pre-

"Logan's War."

film projects.

Mr. Berman is the founder and chairman of Trivac. He invented the patented LIT® methodology. He has been involved with numerous not for profit organizations involving kids and their development on various levels. Some of the related boards that he has served on are Chuck Norris' KickStart foundation, Winston School and Just for the Kids. He is currently on the boards of Dallas County Community College District and KERA (PBS telecast). Some of his more recent boards that he has joined are the American Heart Association and MedSynergies, Inc. He was one of the major shareholders and advisors of Voyager Expanded Learning, which was sold to a public company in January 2005. Mr. Berman has trained executives for more than 35 years in his own companies and other companies such as Voyager.

Mr. Berman also serves on the board of The Center for BrainHealth, an establishment of The University of Texas at Dallas, whose new building includes the Berman Laboratory for learning and knowledge. Mr. Berman has also served on advisory boards involved in education on the Governor's Business Council and served on the executive committee of the Governor's Business Council under the Governor of Texas.

Mr. Berman has a long business background starting his first company Mirex Corporation when he was 27 years old. He has since then started and ran three additional successful companies in the office automation field over a 35 year span.

Schedule of Events

Thursday, April 15, 2010

7:30pm — CENTURION

9pm - VIP Opening Night Reception

Friday, April 16, 2010

12:00pm - WAKE IN FRIGHT

12:30pm — BORN TO FIGHT

2pm — CENTURIAN

2:15pm - ONG BAK 2

2:30pm — POWER KIDS

4:30pm — CODE OF SILENCE

4:30pm — RAGING PHEONIX

4:45pm — DISTRICT 13 ULTIMATUM

5pm — 000M (OUT OF OUR MINDS)

7pm — THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE WEIRD

7:10pm — HARRY BROWN

7:15pm — DIRTY MIND

7:30pm — MANDRILL (with star Marko Zaror)

9:40pm - 14 BLADES

9:40pm — VENGEANCE

9:45PM - BESOURO

10pm — OPERATION: ENDGAME

12am — TUCKER & DALE VS. EVIL

Saturday, April 17, 2010

12pm — THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE WEIRD

12pm — WAKE IN FRIGHT

12:30 pm - 000M (OUT OF OUR MINDS)

2:30pm - VENGEANCE

2:40pm — DISTRICT 13 ULTIMATUM

2:45pm — HARRY BROWN

2:50pm — POWER KIDS

3:00 p.m. THE AMAZING ACTIONFEST STUNT SHOW!

Join Kinnie "The Rocket Man" Gibson and his incredible stunt team as they bring awesome live stunts from Hollywood to Asheville with some of the top stuntmen in the movie business. You will see such exciting and dramatic stunts as high falls, men on fire, fight demonstrations, gunshots, and air guns that send men high in the air as if they were blown up, all of it live and in-person. And to top it all off, Kinnie Gibson will take to the skies of Asheville in his rocket pack, one of only three in existence! Featuring stunt men from such action hits as PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN, SPIDER-MAN, THE BLUES BROTHERS, ROBO COP, NATIONAL TREASURE and the films of Chuck Norris, along with an appearance by the Ho Sin Sool Dojang martial arts school in Horse Show, NC. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see real live stunts in your own back yard, all of it absolutely FREE and only at ActionFest!

4:45 pm - 14 BLADES

4:45pm — RAGING PHEONIX

5pm - THE ART OF THE SECOND UNIT

It takes a lot of things to make a great action movie, but the most essential element of all is the 2nd Unit. This is the part of the crew that shoots those things that are too dangerous for the rest of the crew: explosions, car chases and special effects, or in other words, most of the things that go into action films. The 2nd unit works with the stunt teams to make sure that everything is not only as exciting as can be, but also matches what the 1st unit crew has shot with the film's stars on the main locations.

ActionFest is proud to honor the masters of the 2nd unit with this special panel on Saturday, April 17 at 5pm. Joining us will be Aaron Norris (ActionFest co-founder and director of BRADDOCK: MISSING IN ACTION III); Jeff Habberstad (2nd unit director of SPIDER-MAN and the upcoming THE LAST AIRBENDER); Kinnie Gibson (2nd unit director on WALKER: TEXAS RANGER) and Paul Weston (stunt coordinator on ALIENS; THE LIVING DAYLIGHTS and LICENSE TO KILL). We'll discuss how a 2nd unit is assembled from some of the finest stunt teams in the world, the dangers they face, and hear stories from decades of working on some of the greatest action films of all time. We will also screen clips from some of their most thrilling and dangerous onscreen adventures.

This panel will be moderated by Drew McWeeny of HitFix.com.

5:15pm — OPERATION: ENDGAME

7pm — VALHALLA RISING

7:10pm - MERANTAU

7:15pm — THE SQUARE

7:30pm — THE STRANGER

9:40pm - ROBO GIESHA

9:45pm — GOLDEN BLADE III: RETURN OF THE MONKEY'S UNCLE

10pm — UNDISPUTED III: REDEMPTION (with Marko Zaror, Issac Florentine and Larnell Stovall)

12am — TUCKER & DALE VS. EVIL

Sunday, April 18, 2010

12:00pm - MERANTAU

12:15pm — UNDISPUTED III: REDEMPTION (with Marko Zaror, Issac Florentine and Larnell Stovall)

12:30pm - ROBO GIESHA

2:30pm — CODE OF SILENCE

2:30pm — MANDRILL (with Marko Zaror)

2:40pm — THE STRANGER

2:45pm — VALHALLA RISING

4:45pm — BESOURO

4:50pm — DIRTY MIND

5:10pm — BRADDOCK: MISSING IN ACTION III

5:15pm - THE STUNTS OF CHUCK NORRIS

ActionFest Lifetime Achievement Award winner Chuck Norris is unquestionably a man of action, but he can't do it alone. While he is a martial arts world champion and the founder of Chun Kuk Do, Chuck Norris depends on movie stuntmen to do all the things the insurance companies won't let him do, like jumping out of airplanes, escaping from explosions and engaging in high-speed car chases. Luckily for him, he's had one of the best stunt teams in the business by his side for over 25 years, and we've got several of them here to talk about what it's like to take a punch, get shot, or fall off a building in the name of Chuck Norris. It's not an easy job, but someone's got to do it.

The Stunt of Chuck Norris will feature Aaron Norris, Jeff

Haberstad and Kinnie Gibson (Chuck's stunt double for over 20 years) and the man himself, Chuck Norris to discuss what makes a Chuck Norris action scene so great. We will be screening clips and telling tales of hair-raising adventures, close calls, and near-death experiences all in the name of Chuck Norris. Experience some of the best stunts in Chuck Norris movie history with the men who made it all happen!

Moderated by Colin Geddes of the Toronto International Film Festival.

7pm — THE SQUARE

7pm — GOLDEN BLADE III: RETURN OF THE MONKEY'S UNCLE

7:30pm — BORN TO FIGHT

7:35pm — ONG BAK 2

9:30pm - CLOSING NIGHT AWARD SHOW AT THE ORANGE PEEL

ActionFest brings you 3 days of amazing non-stop action movies from all over the world to the Carolina Cinemas Asheville, and we're pleased and honored to announce the closing night event honoring action superstar Chuck Norris with the Lifetime Achievement Award will take place at Asheville's hottest nightspot, The Orange Peel! Join us as we honor both this action master and the best films of the festival, and then following the awards ceremony, ActionFest will close out with one of the most exciting rock 'n' roll bands today, Asheville's own, The Reigning Sound. Praised by Popmatters.com as "the antithesis of fabricated pop music", The Reigning Sound's latest CD, "Love & Curses" (In the Red Records) was named the #1 album of 2009 on the influential rock radio show "The Cherry Blossom Clinic", heard on free-form NYC radio station WFMU-FM. Come for Chuck, stay for some amazing rock 'n' roll!

STUNTMEN





JEFF HABBERSTAD

Jeff Habberstad has been working in the film business for over 20 years. Starting as a stuntman specializing in aerial work, Jeff quickly made a name for himself, winning the award for "Best Aerial Stunt" in the first ever Stunt Awards back in 1985. Jeff has gone on to receive 4 Emmy nominations, winning the Emmy in 2003 for an action sequence he directed for the popular "feature-looking" TV series, ALIAS (2001). Before starting in the film business, Jeff attended college in Washington State, specializing in the odd combination of Engineering, Business and Film. This combo has proved very productive. The Engineering along with a natural mechanical ability has led to some of the earliest notable wire work in the film industry. Jeff is quickly being established as a very creative and innovative 2nd Unit Director, having worked on such films as JARHEAD (2005) with Oscar-winner, Sam Mendes, and the upcoming THE LAST AIRBENDER for director M. Night Shymalan.



KINNIE "the Rocket Man" GIBSON

Kinnie Gibson, a native Texan, knew by the age of 14 that he wanted to be in the entertainment business. So he mastered the art of motocross racing and began

the entertainment business. So he mastered the art of motocross racing and began what can only be described as a stellar career as a professional stuntman. However, his ambition didn't stop there. He is now not only one of Hollywood's most sought-after stuntmen, but a

well-respected television and film coordinator, director and producer.

In 1975 Mr. Gibson became interested in the sport of skydiving within two short years was proficient at free-falling. In 1977 he competed in the U.S. National Skydiving Championship.He now has over 1700 jumps to his credit and is pro-rated as well as a certified instructor and tandem master.

By 1981, the Hollywood community began to really sit up and take notice of the young man who was fast becoming acknowledged as one of only a handful of aerial stunt experts in the industry. In addition to skydiving and hot-air ballooning, he was now a skilled fixed-wing and ultra-light pilot and proficient wing-walker. Because of this recognition, he was placed in the enviable position as the world's only Rocketbelt pilot. With a powerful rocket engine strapped to his back, Mr. Gibson brought

to life the dream of nearly every human being on the planet; the ability to soar through the air in untethered free-flight. His " see-it-to-believe-it" performances have thrilled and amazed audiences across the globe, and he is known around the world as The Rocketman

There was nowhere for him to go but up. In 1984, he received the first-ever Stuntman of the Year Award for his brilliantly executed fight sequence atop a hot-air balloon filmed for an episode of the television series "Fall Guy". The award was presented for "best aerial sequence" and was acknowledgment by the film industry of Mr. Gibson's, commitment and achievement to excellence.



Not content to rest on his laurels, he set to work diligently, expanding his list of specialties and skills to include karate, rappelling, snow and water skiing, fire burns, SCUBA, horseback riding, high falls, fights, precision driving, boat driving, explosions, window crashes,

car hits, and more. By 1989 he was receiving calls to double such action-adventure heroes as Chuck Norris, Peter Weller and Lee Majors, just to name a few.

Mr. Gibson also worked on the highly-rated television series "Walker, Texas Ranger", starring Chuck Norris and the "Walker" spin off "Son of Thunder" as well as the feature film "Gold Coast."



Mr. Gibson is a member of many professional organizations, including the Directors Guild of America, the Screen Actors Guild, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, the United States Parachute Association, and the Balloon Federation of

America. He is an alumnus of the Hollywood Film Institute, where he studied state-of-the-art methods of directing and producing. He has been married for 14 years - yes, to the same person - and has two children.

STUNTMEN [cont]

PAUL WESTON

Paul Weston started his show business career in the sixties as photographic model. He was asked to understudy Roger Moore on the "Saint" TV series, where he also played an acting part, performing his own stunts. He was booked as a stuntman on the next episode, and so started his Stunt career. His TV work included classics: "Doc Who" "Blake 7" "The Prisoner" "Space 1999" "The Baron" "Jason King" 'Steed's' stunt double on the "Avengers", " Minder", "Bergerac", "The Professionals" and "Remington Steele".

He worked on the original "Casino Royale", sang with the "Beatles" on "Help", and was directed by Charlie Chaplin on "The Countess from Hong Kong".



Paul thought he should acquire acting skills, so joined a Drama School for three years and toured the US with 7 plays, with two seasons performing in a live stunt show all over Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. He learnt how to be 'knocked down' by a car, four times a night, jump a motorbike over cars, perform high falls, and most of all, how to be a 'Showman'.

"The Dirty Dozen" was his first major feature film, followed by "A Bridge Too Far". Then he was flying double for Christopher Reeve on "Superman" and was Stunt Coordinator on "Superman II" and "III". Other credits from this period include "The Lady Vanishes", "Raiders Of The Lost Ark" "American Warewolf in London" "The Three Musketeers" "Smilla's Sense of Snow" "Daylight" "Dragonheart", "The Count of Monte Cristo" and "Star Wars, Return of the Jedi". He worked on "James Bond" movies as Stuntman and Stunt Actor. On "Moonraker" he doubled for "Jaws" jumping from one cable car to another. As stunt team supervisor on "Octopussy" he doubled for Roger Moore, running over the train roof, ducking under bridges and diving over pipes.

His talents were being recognised, as an all round Stunt Performer, skilful Stunt Coordinator and 2nd unit Director, being able to draw his own action storyboards. He away enjoys working with 'friend of thirty years' Piecre Brosnan, who he doubled for on "Death Train" (also directing 2nd unit), "Remington Steele" and a 'Coca-Cola' commercial.

He was once again, delighted to become part or the "James Bond" team and Stunt Coordinate "The Living Daylights" and "A Licence



to Kill". Working with such talented directors as John Landis on "Spies Like Us"; Kevin Reynolds on "Robin Hood Princes of Thieves" and James Cameron on "Aliens" gave Paul an insight in how get a 'Performance' from actors as well as 'Action', which he put to good use when directing actors on many movies including two 'Bollywood' movies in Mumbai.

Paul has had an exciting and varied career, even becoming a song and musical writer in L.A.

Paul said,' He had enjoyed the ride of his life and hope some you have been with him, at least part of the way!!'

SEE: IMBD or www.paulwestonstunts.com

JOHN CANN

John Cann is President & CEO of Action P.A.C. Stunts, L.L.C. and a veteran of the entertainment industry for more than 25 years. He has appeared in over 100 feature films and television shows as an actor or stunt performer, including such hits as, "ALAMO," "TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE," "HOODLUM," "BATMAN FOREVER," "TANGO and CASH," "HOME FRIES," "PREDATOR 2," "BLOOD IN BLOOD OUT" and "MISS CONGENIALITY." He will recently be appearing in the upcoming films "EXIT SPEED," "THE BEACON"*, "STREETS OF BLOOD" and "A TRIBUTE TO BIG RED"

He has performed stunts in over 40 episodes of "Walker Texas Ranger" and was featured on "Hollywood's Greatest Stunts" and "Entertainment Tonight" while performing a high fall / explosion backwards through a 5th story window.

John's specialties include; Stunt Coordination, high falls, air rams, fire gags, stunt driving, fights (2nd Degree Black belt TKD), swordplay (S.A.F.D. Certified), rigging and more. He has designed and fabricated all of the stunt equipment used by Action P.A.C. Stunts including air rams, ratchets, air bags and more. Action P.A.C. Equipment is some of the safest, most advanced stunt equipment in the world. In 25 years of performing stunts John has never been seriously injured or caused injury to another performer. His safety record is flawless.

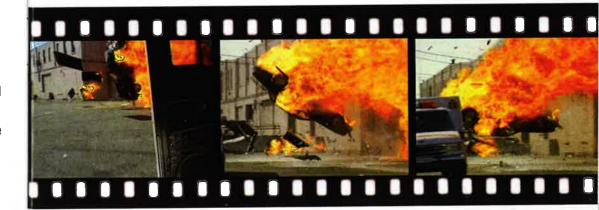
RANDY FIFE

Randy Fife has been a professional in the motion picture and television industry for over 20 years. He's been the stunt coordinator on over 250 film projects and stuntman on over 800 film projects. A few notable projects include ROBOCOP 1 & 2; THE PRESIDENT'S MAN; WAYNE'S WORLD and THE CHASE, in addition to serving as stunt coordinator on such films as D.O.A.; PROBLEM CHILD 2; ROMY & MICHELLE'S HIGH SCHOOL REUNION and SAVING JESSICA LYNCH. Randy takes great pride in his impeccable safety record. Not one person under his supervision, stunt person, actor, or crew, has ever had to spend one night in the hospital.

He is often asked..."How did you become a stuntman?" His answer..."Little or no parental guidance!"

JON MICHAEL SCHULTZ

Jon Michael Schultz is a 30 + year veteran of the stunt community, performing in such films as THE BLUE BROTHERS, THEY LIVE and SPIDER-MAN. He also served as stunt coordinator on Aaron Norris' BRADDOCK: MISSING IN ACTION III and PLATOON LEADER and performed stunts in the Chuck Norris features TOP DOG, DELTA FORCE 2, and WALKER, TEXAS RANGER. He won the 1986 Stunt Awards for Best Specialty Stunt for the TV series RIPTIDE.







Founded in 1990, Chuck Norris' KICKSTART KIDS Foundation began as the Kick Drugs Out of America Program, designed to instill the young people of America with a sense of pride and self-reliance by providing free after school martial arts training. Beginning in 1992 with four middle schools, in Central Texas with 600 students, KICKSTART KIDS is now in forty-three middle schools in Texas. Kickstart has graduated over 60,000 students in 17 years, with many of them graduating from college.

Currently serving over 6,300 of today's youth, KICKSTART KIDS makes a positive impact in their lives. The purpose of the Foundation's mentoring program is to help provide an alternative to drugs and gang activities related to peer pressure. Specific goals of the program are to encourage students to resolve conflicts productively, avoid participating in gangs, choose a drug-free lifestyle, and remain in high school until they graduate.

The overall mission of KICKSTART KIDS is to change and save children's lives. Resiliency is enhanced through the values and philosophies taught through the Martial Arts.

KICKSTART KIDS primary goal is to reach city youth. However, we have many programs in suburban areas to ensure that we meet the needs of students in various environments. Our program generally begins in the sixth grade and is continued throughout middle school. After graduating middle school the students are encouraged to enroll in one of the after school programs offered to high school students.

Without programs like KICKSTART KIDS, many of these children could potentially end up in Juvenile Detention Facilities. It costs an estimated \$50,000.00 per child, per year, to be incarcerated in a detention center. It only costs \$550.00 per child, per year to be in the KICKSTART KIDS program. It is because of the nobility of KICKSTART KIDS' mission that Actionfest will be donating 100% of this year's proceeds to the charity, and we encourage our attendees to make individual donations well after the festival has occurred. Giving a child hope is one thing, but teaching them to find the strength inside themselves to overcome adversity is the greatest adventure of all.



CHUCK NORRIS

Chuck Norris is one of the most enduringly popular actors in the world. He has starred in more than 20 motion pictures such as Delta Force, Code of Silence and Missing in Action, just to name a few. His television series "Walker, Texas Ranger", which topped the charts for eight full seasons, is the most successful Saturday night series on CBS since "Gunsmoke". Internationally, it is seen in more than 80 countries worldwide, ranking as one the top U.S. shows in both sales and audience.

Norris first made his mark as a renowned teacher of martial arts and was a six-time undefeated World Professional Middle Weight Karate Champion. He is the first man from the Western Hemisphere in the over 4,500 year tradition of Tae Kwon Do to be awarded an eight degree Black Belt Grand Master ranking. By the 1970's he had revolutionized Martial Arts in the U.S. and created his own system called Chun Kuk Do, meaning "The Universal Way."

Among his most rewarding accomplishments is the creation in 1992 of his KICKSTART KIDS Foundation. His wife, Gena, is also a leading force in this endeavor and invaluable member of the Board of Directors. With its goal of building strong moral character in our youth through martial arts training, the Foundation has become the most important mission of Chuck

and Gena's lives, along with focusing on their family. KICKSTART KIDS now works with over 6,000 high-risk youth on a daily basis as part of the daily school curriculum and since its inception, the program has graduated over 60,000 youngsters. Their goal is to expand the program all over Texas and eventually the nation.

Chuck Norris is also a New York Times bestselling author of three books. They include Black Belt Patriotism: How to Reawaken America, and the 2004 autobiographical Against All Odds. His latest book, The Official Chuck Norris Fact Book, has been a huge success with the younger generation. Norris has also penned two works of fiction. In 2006, he added "columnist" to his list of credits with the launch of his popular internet column on the independent news site WorldNetDaily.com. His weekly column is now widely syndicated and carried by Human Events and Townhall, among other outlets.

A very popular public speaker, Norris is a strong supporter of the NRA, supporting our 2nd amendment rights and was named Honorary Chairman of the NRA's, "Get Out The Vote" campaign and has served as spokesperson for agencies such as The United Way and The Veterans Administration. Norris, an Air Force veteran, was named an Honorary Member of the Marine Corps in 2007, which was an incredible honor demonstrating the appreciation the Corps felt for his two "hand shake" tours of Iraq within a one year period. Chuck and Gena Norris share deep religious convictions and they are strong supporters of the movement to bring the Bible back into the public school system. They serve as spokespersons for the National Council on Bible Curriculum in Public Schools.

A genuine internet phenomenon, Norris has become the subject of countless Paul Bunyan-type fictional "facts" of his exploits, submitted by fans. There are currently more than a million such "facts" floating around the internet. In November of 2009, he came out with The Official Chuck Norris Fact Book, focusing on 101 of his favorite facts and stories.

The Norrises live on their ranch near Houston, where they are raising their eight —year old twins, Dakota and Danilee.



(2010, China/Hong Kong, Daniel Lee, 1h52m, Mandarin)



[NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE]

BRIFF SUMMARY

During the Ming Dynasty, a secret agent of the emperor's court is betrayed and then hunted down by his former colleagues. Starring martial arts legends Donnie Yen (IP MAN) and Sammo Hung (DRAGONS FOREVER), 14 BLADES was recently nominated for "Best Action Choreography" at the 2010 Hong Kong Film Awards.

FULL DESCRIPTION

You probably don't know who Donnie Yen is, and there's absolutely no reason why you shouldn't.

Despite appearances in such U.S. films as BLADE II and SHANGHAI KNIGHTS (where he fought Jackie Chan) Yen has been delivering some of the best Hong Kong martial arts films of the last 20 years, giving us a great cinematic legacy that few can match: IRON MONKEY, S.P.L. (titled KILL ZONE here), HERO, FLASH POINT and the superb IP MAN. All of these films show Yen to be not only a peerless martial artist, but also a pretty decent actor and a good judge of material. A new Donnie Yen movie is a big deal to the ActionFest programming crew, so we were sold on 14 BLADES by his presence alone, but we're happy to report that the

film delivers quite well, proving once again that a new Donnie Yen film means quality cinema abounds.

A fair amount of Hong Kong films owe a debt to Sergio Leone's DOLLARS trilogy, and 14 BLADES does play a bit like a Chinese version of a spagnetti western, with Yen filling in for Clint Eastwood. This helps to give the film a unique feel over a lot of other recent Hong Kong martial arts epics, and like the Leone films, it also contains some generous helpings of humor (two words: chicken bone) that set it apart. Yes, it's got the wire work and CGI that can be found in a lot of other Hong Kong films of today, but 14 BLADES is also filled with respect for older films of the genre, especially those from late 60s, early 70s. The appearance of Shaw Brothers regular Wu Ma and a cameo by none other than Sammo Hung help drive this home, but credit should also go to director Daniel Lee for making a film that skillfully balances action, humor, drama and even romance in such an entertaining package. 14 BLADES is looks modern but has a classic feel to it, and when you add Donnie Yen to this mix you have a terrific combination. This is one that delivers on most every level and should not be missed. (Matthew Kiernan)

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[NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

An official selection at the 2010 Berlin International Film Festival, BESURO is the emotional true of the legendary capoeira fighter from Bahia, who was rumored to fly and leads an uprising of slaves to gain their freedom.

FULL DESCRIPTION

"Besouro" is the Portugese word for 'beetle'. Besouro was also the name of one of Brazil's most famous dancers. Besoura Mangangá was how legendary Capoeirista Manuel Henrique Pereira (1897—1924) wished to be known. This film tells the story of his life.

Capoeira is a Brazilian dance-like form of martial arts. The art form was brought to Brazil by African slaves who were prohibited from carrying weapons, and instead cultivated this musical form of martial arts. For Manuel Henrique Pereira, who was orphaned at a young age, the art form paves his way to fame. He finds an excellent teacher in Mestre Alípio, a master of Capoeira who teaches him the dance's main requirements: concentration, a sense of justice and the desire to liberate Brazil's black population from the oppressive social structure that still informed the country at the beginning of the 1920s.

Besouro becomes a hero, but he is also a man of passion. Dinorá, his childhood sweetheart, becomes the love of his life — that nonetheless ends tragically. Love is one of the many conflicts that Besouro has no fear of facing. They say that beetles cannot fly. But they do. And so, just as these insects defy the laws of physics, so too do the dancing fighters known in Brazil as Besouro. (Berlin International Film Festival)

DIRTY MIND

[2009, Denmark, Pieter Van Hees, 1h42m, Flemish]



[REGIONAL PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

From director Pieter Van Hess (LEFT BANK), DIRTY MIND tells the story of a meek and mild technician who suffers an injury on a film set and emerges as the suave and fearless "Tony T", who sets out to become a legendary stuntman in an effort to escape his loser past.

FULL DESCRIPTION

Dirty Mind by Pieter Van Hees is a thrilling comedy from Belgium with a dash of action, drama and romance. Diego and Cisse, who are brothers, have their own stunt team that does television and film work. Cisse is the wild man who does all the stunts and gets all of the glory. Diego is content with setting up the stunts. After a stunt goes wrong, Diego suffers a brain injury. The injury transforms Diego into Tony T ("like TNT"), a vulgar and egotistical stuntman who likes the ladies a little too much. The

rise of Tony T means the downfall of Cisse, who is soon reduced to a second banana in the stunt team. When a neurologist named Janna enters the story, romance blossoms and complex situation becomes even more difficult.

Dirty Mind is the second film in a Pieter Van Hees' yet-to-be-completed trilogy called Anatomy of Love and Pain. Whereas the first installment, Left Bank, was a horror film, Dirty Mind is dark comedy that uses the world of stunt men as a basis to explore familial and romantic relationships. This isn't a traditional action film, but action is integral to the story, and flows effortlessly from the narrative. A naturalistic shooting style with handheld cameras adds a sense of realism while a mix of film stocks yields a grainy, desaturated look. Dirty Mind is a great film that uses an unique blend of approaches to tell an engaging story. (Rodney Perkins)

(2009, Chile, Ernesto Diaz Espinoza, 1h30m, Spanish)



[REGIONAL PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

Two-time Academy Award-winner Michael Caine returns to the action milieu of his legendary film GET CARTER as Harry Brown, a widowed and retired military man looking to live out the rest of his days in peace, but forced to take up arms again when his only friend is murdered by a local gang. (Courtesy of Samuel Goldwyn Films)

FULL DESCRIPTION

You may not realize it, but Michael Caine is one of the most badass action stars in movie history. Better known these days as the double Oscar-winner of such "respectable" movies as THE CIDER HOUSE RULES and HANNA AND HER SISTERS, Caine spent most of the 60s and 70s busting heads all over the U.K. in some of the best action films of the era. From the Harry Palmer series (which began with THE IPCRESS FILE) to such excellent films as PLAY DIRTY, TOO LATE THE HERO and the original classic GET CARTER, Michael Caine has proven himself to be one of the classic movie tough guys, so it's a delight to see him get back to

where he once belonged in HARRY BROWN, a movie that brings back the grittiness of such great British crime movies like GET CARTER in a way that Guy Ritchie or Matthew Vaughn could never get right in their lifetimes.

Caine is the perfect choice to play Brown, and you can see that just as Brown gets the old juices flowing once he starts enacting revenge, Michael Caine, the action star, returns with him. Caine's Brown isn't as brutal as his Carter, but he's just as intriguing a character, someone going back to a way of life he doesn't want to because it's the only way he's going to set things right. There are certainly shades of both DEATH WISH and UNFORGIVEN in HARRY BROWN, but director Daniel Barber makes his own film here, a tough and gritty one, yes, but also sad and mindful of how we're losing ourselves to apathy and brutality. Certainly one of the more dramatic features of ActionFest this year, but just as exciting as anything else you'll see and anchored by another masterful performances by one of the world's greatest movie stars. (Matthew Kiernan)

REGIONAL PREMIERE 1

BRIEF SUMMARY

Chilean martial arts star Marko Zaror (KILTRO; MIRAGEMAN) returns to the screen as the tough-as-nails hitman Mandrill, whose latest contract finally leads him to the man responsible for the murder of his parents.

FULL DESCRIPTION

Every year or so there's a new action star that is supposed to be the Next Big Thing but inevitably turns up in Direct-to-DVD movies a few years later. If you're going to bring something new to the action game, it better be more than just a different style of fighting or a snappy catch phrase, you've got to be unique. MANDRILL star Marko Zaror (who also stars in UNDISPUTED III: REDEMPTION, which is world premiering here at ActionFest) stands out for a lot of reasons, not just because he's Latin or because he's got the looks of a male model, but for the one thing that makes action stars into movie stars: charisma. You see in Marko Zaror something that extends beyond his rather formidable

martial arts skills, but a real effort to create a believable character and give an honest performance. Who can remember the last martial artist who tried to do that?

It's this effort that separates MANDRILL from the rest of the pack, for this is more of a real movie and not just a mere action showcase, though it unquestionably delivers on that front. What's really interesting about MANDRILL is how the story's many different layers create a narrative that surprises and makes for genuinely compelling viewing. This does not mean that MANDRILL delivers more story than it does action, because it sure as heck delivers quite a bit in the action department and proves once again that Zaror really is action cinema's Next Big Thing. His moves are sleek and quick, he's got a lot of charm and style, and best of all, he's out to make movies that put character before action that definitely don't skimp on the action. You want to see the future of action movies? See Marko Zaror in MANDRILL and you'll know you've seen the Next Big Thing. (Matthew Kiernan)

OPERATION:ENDGAME

12010, United States, Fouad Mikati, 1h27m, English]



[REGIONAL PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

Yuda, a young man from the Indonesian countryside must undergo Merantau, a traditional rite into manhood where he must leave home and find his place in the world. But upon his arrival in Jakarta he finds himself thrust into the world of human slave trading, with only his Silat skills to help him survive. (Courtesy of Magnet Releasing)

FULL DESCRIPTION

You don't usually hear this said about a lot of martial arts movies, but MERANTAU is a film with a lot of heart. Sure, it's full of action and great martial arts, but when the film is done you're not just excited by what you've seen, you're also pretty moved, and that's a rare thing in this genre. This is because writer/director Gareth Evans doesn't go the usual martial arts plot route of telling a revenge tale, but focuses on Yuda, a simple famer who travels to Jakarta to experience the Indonesian rite of passion Merantau, where young men from small villages leave home on their own to survive in the big city. Coming across

a human slave trade, Yuda's moral strength tells him that he cannot stand aside and let this happen, while his skills in the martial art Silat keep him ahead of most of his foes.

It's a classic martial arts story, but the surprising sensitivity that Evans (a Welsh filmmaker living and working in Jakarta) brings to MERANTAU makes it something truly special that puts it miles ahead of most other martial arts films these days. But Evans couldn't have done this alone, and his secret weapon is his star Iko Uwais, perhaps the finest martial arts discovery to come along since Tony Jaa. Trained in Silat since childhood, Uwais is as lethal as any other martial artist on screen today, but his earnestness, coupled with an easy likeability and sense of decency, makes him something special. He's an unlikely martial arts star, but when you see him in action — either fighting or just talking — you realize he's an all-around natural talent. This rare combination of compassion and fighting mastery makes MERANTAU one of the best martial arts films in years. (Matthew Kiernan)

[WORLD PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

Zack Galifanakis, Rob Corddry, Ving Rhames, and Emile
De Raven star in this new comedy thriller about two teams of
assassins locked in an underground facility, each out to discover
who murdered their boss before they're all offed. (Courtesy of
Anchor Bay Entertainment)

FULL DESCRIPTION

OK, without trying to hype this thing too damn much, every film festival has one movie that they consider to be their own little discovery, and for us it's OPERATION: ENDGAME. We saw this a few months back when it was called ROUGE'S GALLERY (we're still not sure why the title change, but we'll go with it) and were delightfully surprised with what we saw. As much of a comedy/thriller as it is an action movie, OPERATION: ENDGAME moves with a lot of quick wit and boast a terrific cast that, along with a solid script by Sam Levinson and Brian Watanabe, puts a lot of big fun on the screen. Trust us on this one.

OPERATION: ENDGAME is one of those movies whose casting is essential to its success, and director Fouad Mikati (making his debut) cast this one wisely. While boasting such skilled dramatic talent as Ellen Bakrin and Ving Rhames, it's also filled with several comedic heavyweights, like Bob Odenkirk (MR. SHOW), Adam Scott (STEP BROTHERS), Rob Corrdry (currently stealing the show in HOT TUB TIME MACHINE) and THE HANGOVER's Zack Galafanakis. Mikati handles the action expertly and wisely lets the cast do their thing, and their often hilarious interplay makes for some of the undisputed highlights of this year's festival. OPERATION: ENDGAME is just a giant ball of fun on the big screen, and we're hoping the word of mouth catches on about it so we can say we helped put it on the map. ActionFest is honored to be hosting the world premiere several months in advance of its fall 2010 release, and we hope you'll all show up to see one of the year's best and brightest genre films. (Matthew Kiernan)

(2009, Thailand, Krissanapong Rachata, 1h40m, Thai)







BRIEF SUMMARY

When their best friend is in need of a heart transplant, a plucky group of kids band together against a group of terrorist who have seized the hospital moments before their friend's surgery. This outrageously fun martial arts adventure was produced by the same team behind ONG BAK and THE PROTECTOR. (Courtesy of Magnet Releasing)

FULL DESCRIPTION

When I first saw POWER KIDS at the 2009 Fantasia Film Festival in Montreal, my first reaction was "How did they get away with this?" My second reaction was then, "How do I get my hands on a copy of this?" POWER KIDS may be pretty un-PC, but damn does it supply the fun in massive doses in ways that few other ActionFest films do this year.

It would be easy to say that the film's main appeal comes from seeing a bunch of little kids performing the same kind of dangerous stunts that you see Tony Jaa doing, but, in truth.

that sort of thing can only take a movie so far. It helps that the kids themselves are a spunky bunch — all of them extremely impressive martial artists — are engaging performers, and that director Krissanapong Rachata keeps it all moving at such a fast pace that it's impossible to slow down and count the plot holes. But it is easy to relish the film's spirit fearless fun and adventure while equally easy to cringe at the numerous painful stunts that you're seeing these kids (who all trained for over a year for the film) perform. There's no question that POWER KIDS is pretty nuts, but it's a good kind of nuts - no, make that the best kind of nuts - because of its reckless abandon. Every kid dreams of being the kind of hero these kids turn out to be, and every adult will get a huge thrill out of watching kids do what the adults can do and do it better. We may be showing "better" movies than POWER KIDS, this year, but few are as much gleeful fun and if you don't show up for this one then you're really missing out. (Matthew Kiernan)



T NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

CHOCOLATE's JeeJa Yanin returns to fight off a vicious band of kidnappers with the help of a new form of Muay Thai that combines martial arts and hip hop dance moves! (Courtesy of Magnet Releasing)

FULL DESCRIPTION

Since the days of Angela Mao and Michelle Yeoh, female martial artist have proven themselves to be every inch the equal of their male counterparts, and when JeeJa Yanin came on the scene in 2008's CHOCOLATE she instantly became the new must-see action star of the day. Fans all over the world were waiting for her next film, and we're proud to be presenting the North American premiere of RAGING PHEONIX, the film that shows Yanin is no one-hit (or punch or kick) wonder.

Just like in CHOCOLATE, Yanin is the whole show, a selfdestructive musician who finally finds her calling when she teams up with a rouge band of martial artists who combine drunken Muay Thai fighting with hip-hop dance moves (!). Throw in a human slave trade and it's plainly obvious that RAGING PHEONIX is, well, ridiculous, but does that really matter? The fights are all top-notch, expertly shot, performed and edited and painful to watch; but most importantly, JeeJa Yanin is a major martial arts star in the making, and she alone makes RAGING PHEONIX worth seeing. Beyond the fact that she's quick and lethal, Yanin is also a fun and engaging performer, pretty much the definition of scrappy and a joy to watch throughout. The fact that she's also as cute as can be is another plus (ladies, you've got Marco Zaror to fawn over), so combine her good looks with her lethal fight skills and I'm thinking you've got the perfect woman here. Does that make RAGING PHOENIX the perfect movie? No, but it sure is a heck of a lot of fun, and combine that with the eye candy that JeeJa Yanin provides and you've got a movie that's both a visual and visceral treat that provides solid entertainment. (Matthew Kiernan)

THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE WEIRD

[2008, South Korea, Jee-Woon Kim, 2h10m, Korean]



TUCKER & DALE VS. EVIL 12010, United States, Eli Craio, 1h26m, English



[REGIONAL PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

South Korea's smash hit finally hits the U.S.! A South Korean western inspired by Sergio Leone's classic THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY, WEIRD stars Song Kang-Ho (THE HOST) as one of a group of desperate gunslingers in 1930's Manchuria after a priceless treasure map. (Courtesy of IFC Films)

FULL DESCRIPTION

One of the cinematic specialties of South Korea is action. Thus, it is no surprise that one of the very best action films produced anywhere in the past 10 years is from South Korea. That movie is The Good, The Bad, The Weird. In 1930s Manchuria, The Bad is hired to steal a treasure map from a Japanese official traveling by train. The map is believed to contain the key to winning World War II and securing the future of the region. Unfortunately for The Bad, his plan is thwarted by The Weird, a thief and bandit who holds up the train and grabs the map. To make things more complex, The Good appears on the scene

to claim a bounty on The Bad. As the story develops, group of Chinese bandits get involved in the search for the map. All of these forces eventually collide in a spectacular race to claim the treasure.

As the title suggests, Kim Ji-woon's film is a homage to spaghetti westerns with a plot that in many ways mirrors Sergio Leone's The Good, The Bad, The Ugly. Kim Ji-woon updates the classic formula by adding spectacular stunt work and large-scale set pieces. Many of the stuntmen studied in a hard-knocks school for stuntmen in Korea and cut their teeth in films such as The Host, Crying Fist, and City of Violence. Here, the entire crew push the action to the limit. Some stunts are handled with wire work, but many stunts occur without any assistance from wires or post-production effects. This is most evident in the film's rousing finale, which sends dozens of actors on horseback, in military vehicles, or motorcycles on a high-speed desert chase with massive explosions and gunfire. The Good, The Bad, The Weird delivers the goods. (Rodney Perkins)

[EAST COAST PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

ActionFest livens things up with comedy, action and horror, as two country bumpkins are mistaken for serial killers by a group of clueless college kids in this midnight smash hit of the Sundance and SXSW film festivals.

FULL DESCRIPTION

The 'goofy misunderstanding' is a comedy tool as old as raunchy cave paintings (it's particularly prevalent in the stupidest of stupid chick flicks), but when it works well ... you can have some real fun with a farce. It's a tricky balance, because the movie is giving the audience the upper hand. You know everything, while the characters know practically nothing. Without a clever concept, a strong sense of energy, and a game cast, this sort of comedy can get very old, very fast.

Fortunately that's not the case with the exceedingly amusing Tucker & Dale vs. Evil, a low-budget but good-looking comedy that takes place in a generic slasher universe. The characters are the key here, because the concept is already a winner: You know those scummy hillbillies that live inside cabins in 73% of the horror flicks you've ever seen? At best these guys are extra meat for the body count; at worst they're the bloodthirsty killers. But in the case of Tucker & Dale ... they're just plain old nice guys! A little sloppy to look at, and entirely lacking in social skills, but

they're just a pair of goofy hayseeds on their way to their brandnew vacation cabin.

First-time director Eli Craig smartly starts us out with the other crew: You know them from the first half hour of every Friday the 13th movie. The college kids. In most slasher flicks these would be your victims and potential heroes. In Tucker & Dale, they're the troublemakers and the carnage-causers. The jock, the dork, the tramp, the nice girl, the joker, etc. They all butt heads with Tucker and Dale at a sleazy gas station, but the craziness doesn't take hold until both parties take their separate ways into the woods.

Comedy duos and clever concepts aside, Tucker & Dale vs. Evil passes the main and most important tests of comedy/horror combos: A) It finds its own angle (as in, it's not another Shaun of the Dead wannabe), B) it actually IS both comedy and horror, and C) it displays some sort of affection for the genre it's poking fun at. Tudyk, Labine, and Bowden are certainly appealing enough for casual genre fans, but if you grew up feasting on the silliest of slasher sequels, you'll have a nostalgic good time with Tucker & Dale vs. Evil. On top of that, it's got solid music, a confident pace, and it was shot and lit like a an actual movie. Pretty impressive package from a first-time team on limited funds. (Scott Weinberg, Fear.net)





12010. United States, Isaac Florentine, 1h30m, Englishl

[2009, Denmark, Nicolas Winding Refn, 1h40m, English]





[WORLD PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

Modern martial arts masters Scott Adkins and Marko Zaror (MANDRILL) square off in this third chapter of the popular prison boxing series, as champion fighter Uri Boyka (Adkins) is transferred to a Ukraine prison to fight in the first prison fighting tournament, where the winner is granted freedom and the loser... death!

FULL DESCRIPTION

Man, are we ever excited for this one! Back in 2002, director Walter Hill brought us UNDISPUTED, a terrific prison boxing picture that starred Wesley Snipes and Ving Rhames. While not the box office hit it deserved to be, it was a big hit on the video market, so much so that its producers decided to go the direct-to-DVD route for the film's 2006 sequel, which starred Michael Jai White in Rhames' role and new martial arts star Scott Adkins as the villainous Uri Boyka. UNDISPUTED II surprised many by the quality of its action and martial arts, so now, director Isaac Florentine and star Adkins have turned Boyka into the film's hero and have given him an adversary that would make any martial arts star quake in their boots: MANDRILL star Marko Zaror. With

these two going head-to-head, can you tell why we're so excited about this one?

We haven't seen UNDISPUTED III: REDEMPTION vet, and ActionFest is getting the film's world premiere, so you guys will be the first audience anywhere to see this, but going by the footage we've seen (and Florentine and Adkins' previous collaborations, which also include NINJA) UNDISPUTED III will unquestionably be one of the highlights of ActionFest 2010. Few filmmakers are making movies as badass as Florentine is these days; tough, gritty, but also lightning quick a hell of a lot of fun to watch, and he's single-handedly turned Adkins into one of the top new martial arts stars of the last few years. Throwing Marko Zaror into this mix is like tossing gasoline onto flame, but it's this explosive combination that makes us so giddy with anticipation. We've already sung Zaror's praises elsewhere (make sure you check out MANDRILL), but to see him go up against Scott Adkins, with Issac Florentine behind the camera, makes this one of the prime movies of this year's ActionFest. Anyone looking to see the future of action movies needs to be there for the world premiere of UNDISPUTED III: REDEMPTION, because we just know it's gonna deliver. Can't wait! (Matthew Kiernan)

[REGIONAL PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

BRONSON director Nicholas Winding Refn teams with CASINO ROAYLE star Mads Mikkelsen for this historical epic about Norse warriors in the year 1000 A.D. (Courtesy of IFC Films)

FULL DESCRIPTION

Nicolas Winding Refn's Valhalla Rising is a violent Viking saga about the clash of civilizations, cultures, and religions. A tattoo-covered Nordic warrior named One-Eye (his eye is missing and the socket is covered in scar tissue) with superhuman strength is held captive by band of Vikings. One-Eye is treated like an animal. He is kept on a leash tied to a pole and forced to prove his worth through fights. After being sold to another tribe, One-Eye escapes with a young boy who was also held captive. Eventually, the duo comes in contact with a group of Vikings on a crusade to reconquer Jerusalem. As the group starts their sea

journey to the holy land, a fog envelopes them. When their ship emerges from the fog, they find themselves in a mysterious land. Although the crusaders think they have found the holy land, it soon becomes apparent that they have arrived in very different place.

Valhalla Rising begins in a violent fashion that reflects One-Eye's struggle to survive as a Viking slave. His face pulping, head smashing, and brain splattering mayhem leaves a long, bloody trail. Once the journey to Jerusalem begins, the film takes on an intense, almost abstract atmosphere as One-Eye transforms into something beyond human. The intermingling of action and metaphysics is expertly handled, adding a layer of complexity to the story. Valhalla Rising is brutal, smart, and challenging. (Rodney Perkins)

[1971, Austrailia, Ted Kotcheff, 1h54m, English]



SPECIAL RETROSPECTIVE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

BORN TO FIGHT

[2004, Thailand, Panna Rittikrai, 1h36m, Thai]

Panna Rittikrai, martial arts choreographer of Tony Jaa's ONG BAK films, directed this insanely fun stunt extravaganza about a small village overtaken by terrorist that fights back in spectacular style. This rare U.S. theatrical screening is part of ActionFest's Shomongkolfilm Retrospective (Courtesy of Dragon Dynasty)

FULL DESCRIPTION

Director Panna Rittikrai is a legend in Thai action film.

In 1978, he made Born to Fight, which would influence a generation of young Thai martial artists, including Tony Jaa. In 2004, Rittikrai directed a remake the film to that brought his style of dangerous action to an entirely new audience. The main character in the film is a young cop named Daew. After losing his partner in a raid on gun-runner named General Yang, Daew joins his sister and some of her athlete friends to give food and toys to people in a village on the Thai border. General Yang's henchmen raid the village. Their demand: release General Yang or Bangkok will be nuked. Daew and the athletes, who are all played famous

Thai sports figures, band together to fight off the gun-runners before they destroy the nation's capital.

Born to Fight has everything an action fan could possibly want, including car stunts, brutal fights, gun play and massive explosions. Like most Thai action films, the stunt men work without wires and put themselves in harm's way to deliver the most realistic possible stunts. The wild opening scene shows a stuntman almost getting crushed between two fast-moving eighteen wheelers. One of the things that makes Born to Fight truly unique is its use of world-class athletes from such sports as martial arts, boxing, soccer, gymnastics, and rugby. These diverse athletic talents are integrated into the action to spectacular effect. A martial artist fits off bad guys with real, flaming batons. A gymnast knocks out the bad guys by using a huge clay pot as a pommel horse and a bamboo fence as parallel bars. A soccer player kicks melons and pots of boiling water into people's heads. This is only a small taste of excitement that Born to Fight brings to the screen. (Rodney Perkins)



BRIEF SUMMARY

Once deemed a "lost" film, Ted Kotcheff's gripping 1971 thriller about a mild-mannered school teacher's crazed weekend in the Australian outback, has recently been restored and re-issued and is now considered one of the greatest Australian films of all time.

FULL DESCRIPTION

Ted Kotcheff is best known as the director of Rambo:
First Blood, but his film Wake in Fright is a lost classic that is
recognized as one of the most important Australian films ever
made. A haughty Englishman named John Grant teaches school
in an outback town called Tiboonda. While on his way to Sydney

for his holiday break, he makes a stop in the fictional mining town of Bundanyabba (referred to by the locals as "the Yabba"). He meets a cop named Jock Crawford who shows him the local hospitality by getting him drunk and introducing him to a coin flipping game called "two-up" at a local bar. Crawford also introduces Grant to an alcoholic doctor named Tydon (Donald Pleasence) who lives on beer, table scraps, and kangaroo meat. After Grant wins some money, he realizes that he may be able to win enough cash to buy out his teaching contract. Things don't turn out as planned, and his brief stop in the Yabba devolves into a long weekend of blackouts, brawling, and unspeakable acts. (Rodney Perkins)

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CODE OF SILENCE

11985, United States, Andrew Davis, 1h30m, English)



CHUCK NORRIS RETROSPECTIVE

BRIFF SUMMARY

Chuck Norris' most critically acclaimed film cast him as Chicago cop Eddie Cusack, who battles mobsters and corrupt cops, in this outstanding police thriller from director Andrew Davis (THE FUGITIVE)

FULL DESCRIPTION

When we were selecting the titles to screen in our Chuck Norris retrospective, I didn't hesitate to say CODE OF SILENCE for a second, since it's always been my favorite Chuck Norris movie. In fact, I'd say that this is the film that turned me into a Chuck Norris fan, along with a lot of others, because, I think, it's hands down the man's best movie. This is just a solid film all around, one that works on a lot of levels, not just as an action movie but also as a cop movie, a Chicago movie and, yeah, as a Chuck Norris movie, too. It's got a bit of everything and it delivers on all levels. What else do you want?

What distinguishes CODE OF SILENCE from the rest of the pack is, first, a pretty good script from Mike Grey and the writing team of Michael Butler & Dennis Shryack, who also wrote Clint Eastwood's THE GAUNTLET and PALE RIDER, that offers a good role for Chuck and a lot of good parts for some great Chicago

character actors, especially the late Ralph Foody, and a fine villain for Henry Silva (whose "Cuban necktie" threat has always given me the creeps. Like a contemporary western, CODE puts honest cop Norris against a bunch of corrupt fellow cops while also trying to bust a local mobster and it's pretty compelling stuff, actually, because it goes well beyond simple a "good guys vs. bad guys" plotline. Then there's the fine direction from Andrew Davis, making the first in what would be a series of great action films (like THE FUGITIVE and UNDER SIEGE). Taking use of excellent Chicago locations (Davis' hometown), he grounds the film in a certain reality that you don't often see in these kinds of movies, while he also does go over board on the action scenes; they're touch and gritty and not over the top. But at the end of the day, what really makes CODE OF SILENCE is the man himself, Chuck Norris, playing one of his best roles and doing a darn fine job of it, too. CODE contains one of Chuck's best fight scenes (on top of a moving L train!) and one of his best lines (you know the one we're talking about), but all if all it's a terrific picture and one that we're glad to be showcasing at this special Chuck Norris retrospective. (Matthew Kiernan. Special thanks to MGM and Adam Hulin.)

BRADDOCK:MISSING IN ACTION II

[1988, United States, Aaron Norris, 1h43m, English]



[CHUCK NORRIS RETROSPECTIVE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

Chuck Norris teams with brother Aaron Norris (co-founder of ActionFest) for the third film in the MISSING IN ACTION series, where Col. James Braddock going back to Vietnam to rescue his Amer-Asian son in this little-seen sequel, Chuck's personal favorite of the series.

FULL DESCRIPTION

BRADDOCK: MISSING IN ACTION III continues the saga of Colonel James Braddock, a rugged, battle-scarred veteran of the Vietnam War and a long, terrible stretch in a North Vietnamese P.O.W. camp. In this, the third installment in the MISSING IN ACTION series, Braddock returns to Vietnam to collect his presumed-dead wife, Lin, and their son, Van, and bring themback to the U.S. Braddock attempts this mission in defiance of the C.I.A. as well as the Vietnamese government, neither of whom want hostilities between Braddock and the Vietnamese to reoccur.

With the help of a friend, Hik, Braddock parachutes into Vietnam and locates Lin and Van. Unfortunately, Braddock runs afoul of the sadistic General Quoc -- who viciously puts an end to Lin's life. At the root of BRADDOCK: MISSING IN ACTION III is the sad plight of Amerasian children -- the orphans of Vietnam, born of native mothers and American G.I.s -- and it is Braddock'.s decision to come to their aid that gives the film its heroic profile. General Quoc has thrown a group of these orphans into a P.O.W. camp along with their protector, Reverend Albright, Braddock risks his life to free the children and deliver them into Thailand. Braddock's realization that he is responsible not only for his own son but all the Amerasian orphans is something of a political metaphor. His rescue of the children is an act of compassion as well as bravery in that it acknowledges the debt that Americans owe these children, the final legacy of our Vietnam experience. When they cross the bridge into Thailand, Braddock is bringing this arduous chapter in American history to a balanced end. (Original press notes)

[WORLD PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

"Stone Cold" Steve Austin stars as an FBI agent out to find a material witness to a top-secret investigation. (Courtesy of Anchor Bay Entertainment)

FULL DESCRIPTION

He may go by Steve Austin in the credits for THE STRANGER, but he will always be "Stone Cold" Steve Austin to millions of wrestling fans all around the world. One of the driving forces in the resurgence of professional wrestling's popularity in the late 1990s, Steve Austin is undoubtedly one of the best to ever grace the ring, but we all knew that he had it in him to go beyond the

ring and hit the big screen. 2008's THE CONDEMED didn't quite live up to its promise, but we've got all indications that THE STRANGER is finally going to be the one that puts Stone Cold in the big leagues.

ActionFest is thrilled to be presenting the world premiere (the film isn't due for release until fall) and encourages everyone to make their voice heard if they like what they see. Tweet it, Facebook it; heck even go back to MySpace and Friendster to spread the word. We want everyone to know that Stone Cold Steve Austin is back in action. This is a guy who's deserved a hit movie to call his own for a long time, and we're glad to say that THE STRANGER is that movie. Enjoy it!

[U.S. PREMIERE]

BRIEF SUMMARY

Legendary Hong Kong action master Johnnie To teams up with legendary French singer Johnny Halliday for this stylish gunplay drama about a French chef who travels to Macau to find the men who murdered his daughter's family. (Courtesy of IFC Films)

FULL DESCRIPTION

Johnnie To is, without question, the world's greatest living director of action films. While he's better known in Asia and Europe than he is here (though his 2006 masterpiece, EXILED, was released here by Magnolia Pictures), To makes action films the way that John Woo, Sam Peckinpah and Jean-Pierre Melvile did, with a breathless combination of style and focus on character (coupled with an unmistakable visual grace) that few other directors working today can match, no matter what the genre. These elements are all on display in VENGEANCE, a perfect primer on the style of To for the uninitiated.

For To's first English-language feature, he brings French pop music icon Johnnie Hailliday to Macau as a former hitman (now chef) on the hunt for the killers of his daughter's family, assisted by three local hit men, played by To regulars Anthony Wong, Lam Ka-Tung and the great Lam Suet. What you get with Johnnie To are some of the most tense, exciting — and yet, quiet - shootouts in movies today, along with the recurring themes of honor and brotherhood that marks his work. VENGEANCE has those in spades, but what helps to make this more than just "Johnnie To's Greatest Hits" is how the issue of memory works its way into the action. Their capacity to do what they do in the name of someone's memory instead of doing it for money, this is what makes To's antiheros men of honor rather than ruthless killers gives this film its soul and what separates VENGEANCE from generic shoot 'em ups. ActionFest is proud to host the U.S. debut of VENGEANCE and we hope if this is your first taste of Johnnie To that you'll soon come back for more. (Matthew Kiernan)

12010. United States, Tony Stone, 1h. Englishl





BRIEF SUMMARY

Director Noboru Iguchi tells the tale of the ultimate rivalry between two sisters. Kikuke is a glamorous geisha, while her sister Yoshie is her overlooked assistant. Little did they know an invitation to a dinner party would lead them to become deadly assassins for a mysterious corporation.

FULL DESCRIPTION

From the demented imagination of director Noboru Iguchi, the man who brought the world the cult sensation MACHINE GIRL, comes the latest installment of outrageous genre-mashing cinema from Japan: ROBO-GEISHA! Or as the opening credits proclaim it (in Iguchi's own voice), "Robo! Geisha! Robo-Geisha!"

In modern-day Japan, Kikue and Yoshie, two sisters in geisha training (who have more than a little sibling rivalry between them) are kidnapped and forced into the shadowy world of the Kageno Corporation, a steel company that's actually the front for a terrorist organization bent on returning Japan to a period of more traditional values. Using their massive Geisha Army and a pair of seemingly supernatural, bikini-clad female assassins named the Tengun, Kageno's maniacal president and his handsome son plot to assassinate business and political leaders throughout the country, then drop an atomic device directly into Mt. Fuji, in order to disrupt the economy and create so much domestic chaos that their puppet government can step into the

resulting void. Central to their plans are the two sisters, who will be converted into mechanical geisha warriors in order to lead the army to victory. But before that can happen, Yoshie begins to question the deadly work they've been assigned, and ask herself: "Is there is more to life than becoming a kimono-clad, robotic killing machine?"

Acid breast milk, fried shrimp used as weapons, butt-swords, a giant castle robot, and geisha that transform into dune buggies are just one part of the wild mix of crazy action, mild splatter, peek-a-boo sexiness, bizarre movie references, and inappropriate comedy ("handicap gun", anyone?) that has defined these types of films and made them increasingly popular, particularly in the West, where Iguchi and Nishimura have become cult figures in the world of low-budget Japanese film.

The film's original trailer, when it first appeared on Twitchfilm.net last summer, became an instant sensation, logging over a quarter million hits in the end. Come see what all the fuss is about: a refreshing antidote to overblown, bloated, mega-budget American action films. An innovative throwback to the "anything goes" comedies of the Zucker Brothers mixed with melodrama, action, and a lot of Japanese spice, ROBO-GEISHA will either your jaw on the floor or your head in your hands. Either way, you won't be bored! (Marc Walkow, New York Asian Film Festival)

BRIEF SUMMARY

Three time periods, one connection: Blood. The central characters are a woman (Melissa Auf der Maur of Hole/Smashing Pumpkins) and her car. We follow her in a strange ritual that climaxes in a collision between the past and future - crashing through the gateway to parallel worlds in the same forest. A fantasy world where a Viking heart, a car crash and a bleeding forest connect. Using music rather than dialogue, OOOM tells a universal tale.

FULL DESCRIPTION

Out of Our Minds began as my second solo album, and eventually turned into my first concept album. I knew I wanted a large visual component to this album, in order to further explore the themes and visuals that always seem to reoccur in my work. The film version was at the top of my dream list, but I knew it couldn't come to life unless I met the right director and creative partner. In the winter of 2006 I saw an early rough cut of Tony Stone's "backyard epic" Viking feature film, Severed Ways: The Norse Discovery of America (Magnolia/Magnet Release), and I was blown away. I remember thinking, and still feel, that there is no other man like him, and that his voice in film is truly

one of a kind. He twisted a period piece into a modern digital experience as naturally as he placed Scandinavian Black Metal over the real-time takes of two Vikings chopping trees. These contrasting elements were oddly complementary. It felt organic and obvious, even though no one had or ever would place these things together again. His ability to tell an epic tale with hardly any dialogue (or budget!) tugged on my heartstrings and within an hour it was clear that he was the one.

I knew that I wanted 000M to experiment with both period piece and the fantasy genre, without following any particular film formula. It needed to be more of an experience, like a dream meets a music video in a parallel world. My theme is classical: the Hunt of the Heart- "return to the heart", "follow your heart", "the heart of the matter" etc... It is a simple notion, that everyone is familiar with, but it offers endless subjective angles to be explored. My personal angle is reflected in the chorus of my song version of Out Of Our Minds: "Travel out of our minds, into our hearts standing by." If the heart is seen as the emotional, feminine side of the equation, and the mind as the rational, masculine side, it's clear which is outweighing the other in the current world order. We are out of balance, out of sync, and clearly out of our minds. (Melissa Auf der Maur)







PREMIERE

BRIEF SUMMARY

AD 117. The Roman Empire stretches from Egypt to Spain, and East as far as the Black Sea. But in northern Britain, the relentless onslaught of conquest has ground to a halt in face of the guerrilla tactics of an elusive enemy: the savage and terrifying Picts. (Courtesy of Magnet Releasing)

FULL DESCRIPTION

Imagine a flick like Braveheart, 300, Gladiator, or King Arthur, only those films have just been stripped of all those boring scenes about kings and princes, peasants and slaves, taxes and trades, and all that jazz. The result would be a movie that looks a lot like Neil Marshall's Centurion, a fast-paced, visually stunning, and action-heavy period piece that focuses on what matters most in a Saturday afternoon matinee: the good stuff. Boasting nary a subplot or an extraneous character to deal with, Centurion seems fully intent on delivering an old-school action adventure that tickles the eye without taxing the brain. And it succeeds on all counts.

It's the story of Centurion Quintus Dias (Michael Fassbender). a trusted officer in the Roman army. Following a brutal attack by the harbaric Picts (ancient Scots are what they are, I do believe), Quintus finds himself stuck deep inside an enemy village -- but not for long. Quintus' escape is aided by the last few survivors of the legendary Ninth Legion, and together the small band of

soldiers must make their way to a friendly border. Not only do they have a long way to go, but they also have on their tails a tenacious group of Pict trackers, which is led by the ferociously unwavering Etain (Olga Kurylenko).

Ever the genre fan, Marshall punctuates his action scenes with explosive geysers of blood, set against an ironically beautiful background, and with an impressive amount of attention paid to editing, timing, and orchestrating the action to its maximum effect. (There's a great sequence best described as "a chase up a mountain.") Aside from Fassbender and Liam Cunningham as a gruff veteran soldier, the five other survivors are a fairly interchangeable troop, but we're not exactly talking about a dramatic ensemble piece here; the Roman guys are suitably heroic, even if they're not exactly as colorful as a "dirty half dozen" might have been.

Whether or not Centurion is an improvement over Marshall's earlier flicks is up to the Marshall fans to decide for themselves, but I applaud the director who is willing (nay, intent!) on attacking a new sub-genre each time he touches a camera. He's like the Danny Boyle of Saturday Afternoon Matinees, and after seeing him tackle warring werewolves, claustrophobic carnage, post-apocalyptic anarchy, and now some old-school "swords and sandals" craziness, I (as always) look forward to what the filmmaker concocts next. (Scott Weinberg, Cinematical)



REGIONAL PREMIERE

RRIFF SUMMARY

Named one of the 10 best films of 2009 by Harry Knowles of Ain't It Cool News, this acclaimed Australian thriller tells the story of a man trapped in a loveless marriage who carries on an affair with a mysterious woman with a dangerous husband. (Courtesy of Apparition)

FULL DESCRIPTION

A hundred different movies can make for something like a dozen common lessons: True love prevails. Underdogs triumph. What goes around, comes around, All that jazz, For some, it's a bit more fascinating when those best laid plans go supremely awry, when the pursuit of happiness is a profoundly futile endeavor. When I tell you that The Square is about two lovers who try to take the money and run, you might think that you've seen it all before.

But you haven't. Not quite like this. Whichever Murphy they named that law after? This puppy would do him proud.

As it unfolds, The Square plays like the blackest comedy

rather than the bleakest noir, full of the best punchlines that you'll never actually hear, as our poor, unfortunate Raymond only endures further and further punishment in the name of his transgressions and aspirations. The recurring dichotomy of his career in construction and descent into destruction is a nice touch -- every single word of the so-called "Haven Cove Oasis Resort" seems to equally mock Raymond and Carla's rut -- and what's key is that Roberts pulls off the everyman-underpressure with heavy shoulders and a meek face quietly carved by countless struggles, though none as taxing as this.

While I could compare this to A Simple Plan or Before the Devil Knows You're Dead, I almost fear that I'd be selling it short in comparison. No, when something this tight and this taut and this relentlessly compelling arrives, it deserves attention all its own. As such, I look forward to the day that I can refer to something as 'post-Edgerton,' and I'll feel downright spoiled the day that I can call something reminiscent of The Square. (William Goss, Cinematical)



[2009, Thailand, Tony Jaa & Panna Rittikrai, 1h38m, Thail



[2009, France, Patrick Alessandrin, 1h41m, French]





BRIEF SUMMARY

Martial arts superstar Tony Jaa stars in and directs this epic tale of revenge set hundreds of years in the past. Featuring a huge cast and hordes of elephants, this prequel takes Jaa's skills to the next level, showcasing him as a master of a wide range of martial arts styles - while proving him to be a promising director as well. Screened as part of ActionFest's Shomongkolfilm Retrospective (Courtesy of Magnet Releasing)

FULL DESCRIPTION

"ONG BAK 2, prepared to be enjoyed", said comedian Patton Oswalt at the film's 2009 premiere at SXSW and little did he realize that in 96 minutes later not only would those words prove true, they also be shattered into tiny little pieces. ONG BAK 2 is more than just a mere entertainment, it's a freaking mind blower of a martial arts epic, one that really takes the genre to the next level in terms of action and ability. It's a well-known fact that ONG BAK 2 co-director/star Tony Jaa suffered a bit of a public meltdown in his effort to create the ultimate in martial arts, but when you're watching the results on screen, you can't help but determine that it was all worth it. It's that good.

To start, ONG BAK 2 is pretty much a in-name-only sequel to ONG BAK (especially since that film took place in modern day, while ONG BAK 2 takes place centuries before the first film began, telling the story of an ancestor to Jaa's character from the first film. It's actually an incredibly ambitious piece, so much so that the story doesn't so much end as it continues in ONG BAK 3 (which opens in Thailand at the end of the month). but that also doesn't matter much, because ONG BAK 2 is filled with some of the most remarkable martial arts moments in all of movie history. Jaa was intent on making a martial arts film on an epic David Lean-like scale, and it's remarkable to see just how close he's come to this. Beyond the great martial arts, ONG BAK 2 is lusciously shot on incredible locations and sets. and it's as much a feast for the eyes as it is for the senses, proof to Jaa's commitment to taking this genre to the next level. Some will complain that the story is confusing of just plain lacking, but you've got to remember that there's another part to this story left to go, so reserve all judgment on this until you know the whole story. For now, however, Tony Jaa has delivered a martial arts extravaganza that few have ever attempted, and it's doubtful we'll ever see its type again. (Matthew Kiernan)

BRIEF SUMMARY

Two years have passed since elite police officer Damien Tomasso (Cyril Raffaelli) teamed up with reformed vigilante Leito (parkour originator David Belle) to save the notorious District 13, a racially charged ghetto populated by violent drug dealing gangs and vicious killers. With bone crunching fights and death defying leaps, this adrenaline charged sequel takes the groundbreaking parkour action from DISTRICT B13 to thrilling new heights. (Courtesy of Magnet Releasing)

FULL DESCRIPTION

District 13 is once again in trouble. The gangs are restless. promised changes have not come to pass, poverty and crime are as rampant as ever. And, just in case things weren't difficult and complex enough in the anarchic district, it appears as though it has a new enemy, a powerful and well financed enemy determined to bring the wrath of the establishment down upon the people and willing to kill to do so. In the face of lawlessness and rising violence there can be only one response: by-the-book supercop Damien and free roaming -- free running, I should say -- vigilante Leto must once again join forces to bring peace to District 13

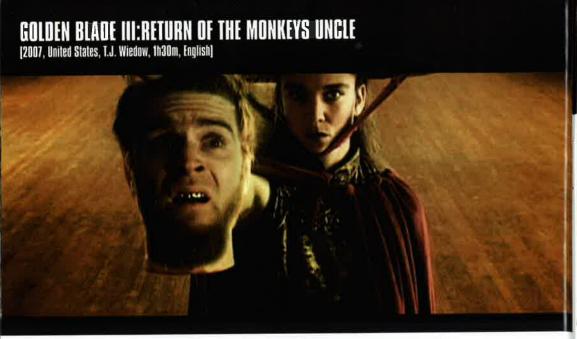
When Pierre Morel's District B13 burst on to the scene in 2004, prescient timing and clever marketing allowed the film

to tap into the bubbling awareness of a new extreme sport. parkour, By casting parkour's co-creator David Belle as Leto and then building the film around his unique skills the film delivered something people had never before seen on screen, a dazzling combination of speed, strength, grace and fearlessness, Largely on Belle's back the film became a huge international hit and so producer Luc Besson did what smart producers always do in cases like these; he took his original formula, shifted the focus slightly and made a sequel.

While the original District B13 was very much Belle's coming out party this second installment casts its eve largely on his partner, French martial artist Cyril Raffaelli. Though you may not think of France as a hotbed for martial arts. Raffaelli is so good that he has been hired to choreograph fight films in Hong Kong and his performance as Damien is loaded with raw energy and charisma, his flying fists and feet dazzling to watch on screen. If the first B13 provided a taste of what Raffaelli was capable of, this second provides a full course meal. Fill out the cast with charismatic characters heading the competing gangs -- Black's MC Jean Gab'1 plays a key role -- and District B13 Ultimatum proves that sometimes you really can go back again. (Todd Brown, Twitchfilm.net/Fantastic Fest)







[LOCAL SHOWCASE]

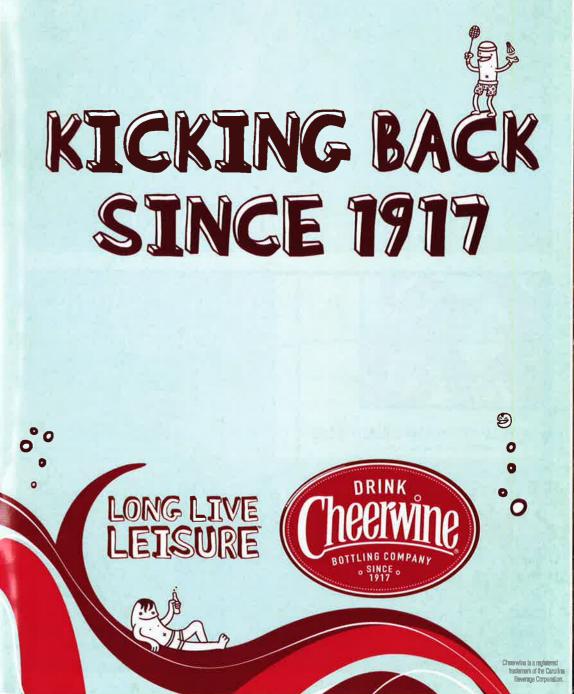
BRIEF SUMMARY

The only martial arts extravaganza shot entirely on location in Asheville, NC, GOLDEN BLADE III is an affectionate spoof of the classic Shaw Brothers films of the 1970s, right down to the cheap FX and bad dubbing.

FULL DESCRIPTION

Golden Blade III - Return of the Monkey's Uncle is the story of Chen Zen and his magical sword that cannot be used to kill, rather it restores life. The intention of the movie is comedy, comedy, comedy, with the hard-style backbone of a Kung Fu film. The look of the film is purposely mocked up to resemble the "Saturday Kung Fu Theater" that used to come on the local TV stations when I was a kid. The cuts were bad, they eyebrows on the masters were long and outrageous, the kung fu was sometimes off-the-wall ridiculous, the zooms were fast, the

voiceovers never matched up, and if it was subtitled, things were spelled wrong and the english grammar was sometimes very funny. Our budget was extremely low for such a great outcome, so we are glad that the ActionFest has seen through all that and recognized this film as an obvious selection for their debut program. I mean come on, Kung Fu comedy made in true indie style with a full volunteer cast and crew, shot right here in Asheville... ActionFest in Asheville is probably the best venue yet for our film! I hope the festival proves to be an inspiration to local filmmakers, and that the ActionFest keeps on coming back. Thanks Guys! Oh, and I'm pretty sure that Chen Zen could defeat Chuck Norris on any given day! He would terminate Chuck's Kung Fu with his powerful "fist of Chen!" (TJ Wiedow, director of GOLDEN BLADE III: RETURN OF THE MONKEY'S UNCLE)

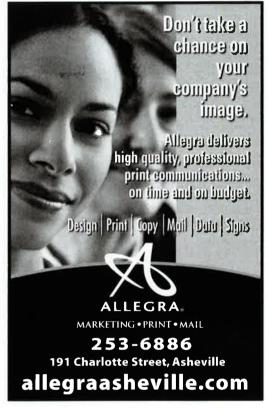


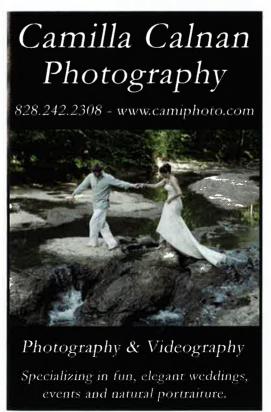


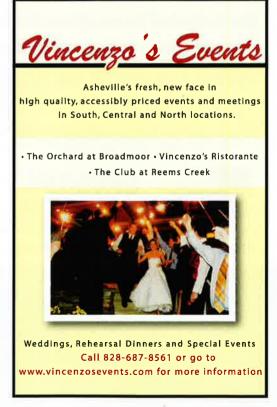


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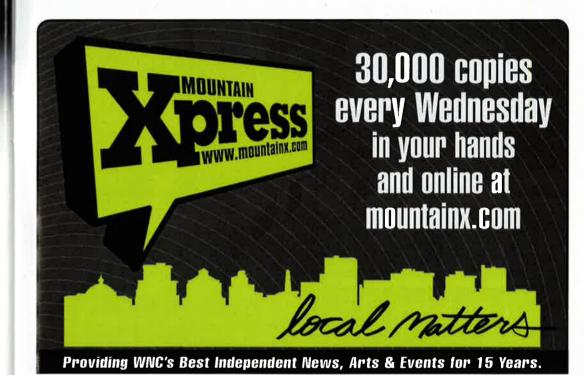
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