



## China on Film

### Chinese/Taiwanese movies

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#### Balzac and the little Chinese seamstress (with Xun Zhou)

DVD BALZAC

Set in the early 1970s during the later stages of China's Cultural Revolution, two city-bred teenage best friends are sent to a backward mountainous region for Maoist re-education. Based on the novel of the same name.

#### Crouching tiger, hidden dragon (with Chow Yun-Fat)

DVD CROUCHING

Set in 19th-century China, two master warriors are faced with their greatest challenge when the treasured Green Destiny sword is stolen. A young aristocratic woman prepares for an arranged marriage, but soon reveals her superior fighting talents and her romantic past. As each warrior battles for justice, they come face-to-face with their worst enemy, and the enduring power of love.

#### Curse of the golden flower (with Jin Chen)

DVD CURSE

Later Tang Dynasty, 10th Century China. On the eve of the Chong Yang Festival, golden flowers fill the Imperial Palace. The Emperor returns unexpectedly with his second son, Prince Jai. His pretext is to celebrate the holiday with his family, but given the chilled relations between the Emperor and the ailing Empress, this seems disingenuous.

#### Hard boiled (with Chow Yun-Fat)

DVD HARD

Tequila is a die-hard cop, hell-bent on bringing down the gun smugglers responsible for his partner's death. To avenge his partner's murder, Tequila joins forces with a rebel cop, and then the body count soars.

#### Himalaya (with Thilen Lhondup)

DVD HIMALAY

Filmed in the Dolpo region of Nepal with Tibetans, none of whom were actual actors, this story tells of the struggle for leadership of a small village between an elderly chief and a young caravanner.

#### Iron monkey (with Rongguang Yu)

DVD IRON

Corruption and poverty in his village force traveling physician Doctor Yang into finding a masked bandit known as "Iron Monkey." The arrival of an evil Shaolin monk brings the doctor and Iron Monkey together to battle the corrupt government.

#### The kumite (with Vaness Wu)

DVD KUMITE

Training under a renowned martial arts expert, Bond creates a powerful hybrid Thai Kickboxing-Chinese kung-fu fighting style in order to triumph over Tank, the invincible Champion Star Runner; in order to win the fight that will save his very life.

#### Once upon a time in China trilogy (with Jet Li)

DVD ONCE

This martial arts classic follows the life of a legendary martial arts hero Wong Fei-Hung and his fight against foreign forces' plundering of China.

#### Wedding banquet (with Ah-Leh Gua)

DVD WEDDING

Comedy about the age-old conflict between parents and their children. In New York, the Taiwanese half of a gay couple hopes to end his parents' matchmaking by announcing that he's engaged. What he doesn't count on is that they'll fly in to meet the bride and plan the nuptials!

#### The young master (with Jackie Chan)

DVD YOUNG

Jackie Chan in full-on kung fu mode.

### Movies set in China:

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#### Adventures of Marco Polo (with Gary Cooper)

DVD ADVENTUR

Traveling from Venice to Peking, Marco Polo discovers spaghetti and gunpowder. To top it off, he falls in love with the Emperor's daughter, but the evil aide Ahmed wants to get rid of the Emperor and Polo so he can rule and marry the princess.

#### Art of war (with Wesley Snipes)

DVD ART

Officially, coolly efficient covert operative Neil Shaw does not exist. Try telling that to anyone standing in Shaw's way. Wesley Snipes plays Shaw, one of an elite, off-the-record team of United Nations agents, in this stylish action thriller. High-tech gadgetry. High-powered armaments. They're all weapons of choice as Shaw unravels a murderous scheme to destroy a historic summit with China

## Dim Sum

DVD DIM

A Chinese immigrant widow faces the New Year with apprehension after it is predicted that it would be the year she dies. Her list of things to do, which includes seeing her daughter get married and visiting China one last time, soon comes into focus.

## Inn of the sixth happiness (with Ingrid Bergman)

DVD INN

Based on the life of Gladys Aylward, this movie portrays the former parlor maid's determined mission to serve God in pre-World War II China, where she led 100 homeless children to safety during the Japanese invasion.

## Last emperor (with John Lone and Joan Chen)

DVD LAST

The true story of Pu Yi, who, at the age of 3, toddled to the Imperial Dragon Throne to become "Lord of 10,000 Years," China's last emperor.

## Marco Polo (with Ian Somerhalder)

DVD MARCO

History is changed forever when Venetian trader Marco Polo embarks on an epic journey through hostile tribes and treacherous terrains to the fabled court of Kublai Khan, the legendary leader of the Mongol Empire. Together with his faithful servant Pedro, Marco spends the next twenty years of his life experiencing the astonishing thrills, pleasures, and excitement of a world few Europeans had ever seen.

## The painted veil (with Naomi Watts)

DVD PAINTED

Set in the 1920s. A young English couple, Walter a middle class doctor and Kitty, an upper-class woman, get married for all the wrong reasons and relocate to Shanghai. Kitty falls in love with someone else. When Walter discovers her infidelity, in an act of vengeance, he accepts a job in a remote village in China that is being ravaged by a deadly epidemic. He takes his wife along and their journey brings meaning to their relationship and gives them purpose in one of the most remote and beautiful places on earth.

## Road to Hong Kong (with Bing Crosby)

DVD ROAD

While on the road to Hong Kong, Chester and Arthur, two vaudevillians, search Tibet for a drug to restore Chester's memory. Once they find the cure, his memory becomes so good he accidentally memorizes a secret formula for space navigation. A beautiful spy comes to their rescue.

## Smile (with Mika Boorem)

DVD SMILE

Lin lives in a world of quiet hardship in China, longing to live without fear or shame. Katie lives in a world of pampered ease in Malibu and wants something new and challenging in her life. When these two come together, their lives are forever changed.

## Son of the dragon

DVD SON

Young thief D.B and his teacher Bird will stop at nothing to provide for their community, even if it means stealing from the Shanghai royal court. But then D.B. falls in love with Princess Li Wei. After he is maliciously framed by the Prince of the North, he will go to any extreme to save himself and the royal family.

## The story of the weeping camel (with Janchiv Ayurzana)

DVD STORY

In the Gobi Desert a family of nomads who assist in the birth of its camel herd face a crisis when one white calf is rejected by its mother. With all hope lost, the family sends its two young boys on a journey to a far-off village to fetch a musician capable of performing a magical ceremony.

## Thank you, Mr. Moto (with Peter Lorre)

DVD THANK

Mr. Moto heads to China on a quest for seven ancient scrolls that reveal the location of Genghis Khan's tomb, a crypt filled with fabulous treasure! But Moto isn't the only one stalking the scrolls.

## Web resources to find more information about Chinese films:

*Chinese Cinema* <http://newton.uor.edu/Departments&Programs/AsianStudiesDept/china-film.html>  
Resource directory created by the Asian Studies Department of The University of Redlands in California.

*Chinese Movie Database* <http://www.dianying.com/>  
Search this for movies from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. This database allows you to search by title, name or company.

*USCD Chinese Cinema Web-based Learning Center* <http://chinesecinema.ucsd.edu/index.html>  
Maintained by a professor at the University of California-San Diego. Includes film synopses, bios on Chinese directors and producers, a bibliography of additional resources and links to other websites.