



NEWS RELEASE

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MPA-BFM FILM WORKSHOP WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT 4TH BEIJING INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Filmmaker wins five-day film immersion course in Los Angeles

BEIJING/SINGAPORE – The Motion Picture Association (MPA) – Beijing Film Market (BFM) Film Workshop concluded on a high note in Beijing on April 19 with the announcement of the winner of the screenwriting master-class and feature film pitch competition.

Zheng Ye who wrote and presented the feature film project *Momo*, pitched his project to a jury of renowned local Chinese and international filmmakers and film executives. The film tells the story of a dog that spends his life serving loyally as a police dog and searching for survivors of an earthquake, set against the background of a community which attaches little value to the life and wellbeing of animals. Zheng Ye will join other emerging filmmakers looking to kick-start the next stage of their film career at a comprehensive immersion course in filmmaking in Los Angeles in November thanks to support from the MPA. Two high commendations were awarded to Li Haodong for his film *Haze* and Jiang Wei for *California Sunshine*.

Presenting the prize to Zheng Ye, Senator Chris Dodd, Chairman and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), said, “The film and television industry in China continues to generate excitement and opportunities and is certainly the place for passionate filmmakers with stories to tell. I hope that your participation in the film workshop is of value to you as you develop your projects and share them with your colleagues in the screen community, and that one day we will see your movies in theatres around the world. I congratulate all of you on your work, and wish you all the best in your future endeavors in the film industry.”

The two-day event, themed “Imagination”, opened with keynote speeches from Frederick Huntsberry, COO Paramount Pictures, Wang Liping, Deputy Secretary General of the Beijing International Film Festival (BJIFF) and Madam Zhang Xun, President, China Film Co-production Corporation. Their remarks were followed by a panel discussion featuring Carlos Saldanha, director of *Rio 2*, which had just opened to wide acclaim in China, Ye Ning, SVP of Wanda Culture Group, Andre Morgan, China/HK/LA based producer of Bruce Lee’s *Enter The Dragon* and *Perhaps Love*, Ellen Eliasoph, President and CEO Village Roadshow Pictures Asia, Harris Tulchin, Entertainment Lawyer and Producer *The Devil’s Double*, and Tracey Trench, Creative Director, Oriental Dreamworks. Moderated by Liz Shackleton, Asia Bureau Chief of Screen International, the forum explored the role imagination plays in both the creative and business pursuits of filmmaking.

The film workshop featured an afternoon of specialized masterclass lectures from Ellen Eliasoph, Harris Tulchin, Andre Morgan, and Tracey Trench, who provided the students with a deep dive assessment of developing, producing and financing feature film projects in China today.

On the second day of the film workshop, Ellen Eliasoph, Harris Tulchin, Andre Morgan and Tracey Trench were joined by producer Lucas Oliver Frost, and leading Chinese film directors and writers Gao Qunshu, Xue Xiaolu, Zhang Yibai and Beijing Film Academy professor Lin Tao to mentor new feature film projects at their early stage of development. The coaching sessions were aimed at preparing the filmmakers to effectively pitch and present their projects to various industry audiences. Eight finalists from the coaching session were chosen to take part in the afternoon feature film project pitch competition. Each filmmaker was given five minutes to present their film to the panel of judges.

The 2014 MPA-BFM Film Workshop was jointly hosted by the Motion Picture Association, Beijing Gehua Cultural Development Group and the 4th Beijing International Film Festival – Beijing Film Market, sponsored by The One Film Fund and supported by the Film Bureau of the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of the People’s Republic of China.

Images are available [here](#).

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About the MPA:

Promoting & Protecting Screen Communities in Asia Pacific

The Motion Picture Association (MPA) and the Motion Picture Association International (MPA-I) represent the interests of the six international producers and distributors of filmed entertainment. To do so, they promote and protect the intellectual property rights of these companies and conduct public awareness programs to highlight to movie fans around the world the importance of content protection. These activities have helped to transform entire markets benefiting film and television industries in each country including foreign and local filmmakers alike.

The organizations act on behalf of the members of the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc (MPAA) which include; Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc.; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal City Studios LLC; Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. The MPA and the MPA-I have worldwide operations which are directed from their head offices in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. and overseen in the Asia Pacific by a team based in Singapore. For more information about the MPA and the MPA-I, please visit www.mpa-i.org.

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