



FESTIVAL DE CANNES
SÉLECTION OFFICIELLE 2024
CANNES CLASSICS

Shanghai Blues

2024 4K Restoration



Directed by: Tsui Hark
Screenplay by: John Chan & To Kwok Wai
Produced by: Tsui Hark
Director of Photography: Ngor Chi-Kwan
Art Director: AuYeung Hing-Yee
Set Designer: Leung Chi-Hing
Costume Director: Lee Park-Yee
Restoration Supervised by: Tsui Hark
Starring: Sylvia Chang, Kenny Bee & Sally Yeh

Genre: Romantic Comedy
Running Time: 1h43
Territory of Origin: Hong Kong China
Original Language: Cantonese
Restored Version: Mandarin, Shanghainese, Cantonese

Press: Festivalpress1@gmail.com

Logline

In 1937, during an air raid in Shanghai, a soldier meets a young woman under a dark bridge and promises to reunite after the war ends. Not knowing each other's name or face, the two individuals fall in love ten years later through many twists of fate.

Synopsis

One fateful night in 1937, amidst the bombings of Shanghai, Tung (Kenny Bee), a young soldier, and Shu (Sylvia Chang) find solace under the bridge. In the semi-darkness, though unable to see each other clearly, the young couple experience an immediate attraction towards each other and plan to meet again when the war is over, under the same bridge.

Ten years have passed. Tung awaits his breakthrough as a promising songwriter, while Shu fend for herself as a showgirl in a nightclub. Enter Stool (Sally Yeh), a young girl in search of her relatives. Her efforts prove fruitless until she crosses paths with Shu, who takes Stool into her home. Soon, they form a close, sisterly relationship.

By a twist of fate, Tung moves into the same building as the two women. Stool finds herself falling for Tung. Meanwhile, Shu and Tung are drawn to each other, unaware that they have met under that bridge many years before.

Film Workshop presents a 40th anniversary 4K restoration of Shanghai Blues. Supervised from the original negative by Tsui Hark with L'Immagine Ritrovata and soundtrack remixed by One Cool Sound. This new version will premiere at Cannes Classics during the 77th Cannes Film Festival.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Tsui Hark is widely regarded as one of the most influential filmmakers in Hong Kong cinema, known for his innovative style and pushing the boundaries of filmmaking. He emerged as a key figure during the 1980s Hong Kong New Wave, challenging genre conventions and censorship restrictions with films like "Butterfly Murders" and "Dangerous Encounters of the First Kind".

In 1984, Tsui co-founded Film Workshop, leading to a series of commercially successful films that defined the golden era of Hong Kong cinema. Works such as "A Chinese Ghost Story", "Swordsman", and "Once Upon a Time in China" solidified his dominance in Asia.

After directing films in Hollywood, Tsui returned to Hong Kong in the mid-1990s and expanded his reach globally with films like "Iron Monkey" and "Time and Tide", which reinvented Hong Kong action genre for international audiences.

From 2011, Tsui ventured into 3D filmmaking with films like "Flying Swords of Dragon Gate" and "Young Detective Dee: Rise of the Sea Dragon". His film "The Taking of Tiger Mountain 3D" earned him the Best Director award at the Golden Rooster Awards and the Hong Kong Film Awards.

Other notable achievements was co-directing and co-producing "The Battle at Lake Changjin", a record-breaking Chinese film that garnered Best Directors and Best Film awards at the Golden Rooster Film Awards. Most recently, his film "Septet: The Story of Hong Kong", was an Official Selection for the 2020 Cannes Film Festival, and he is currently in post-production for the adaptation of the classic Jin Yong novel "The Legend of the Condor Heroes".

ABOUT THE STARS

Sylvia Chang 張艾嘉 (Shu) is a renowned actress, screenwriter and director. She began her film career in the 1970s and has since starred in over one hundred movies. Chang has won the Hong Kong Film Award for Best Actress and Best Screenplay twice. In 2018, she won the Best Actress and a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Asian Film Awards. Most recently, Chang won Best Actress at the 2023 Golden Horse Awards for 'A Light Never Goes Out <燈火闌珊>', marking her third win in the acting category.

Beyond her compelling performances, Chang began directing in 1981 and has since directed 14 films, including notable works like 'Tempting Heart <心動>', '20 30 40', 'Love Education <相愛相親>'. Dedicated in promoting the film industry, Chang currently serves as a member of the Film Development Fund Advisory Committee in Hong Kong and was the chairperson of the Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival Executive Committee from 2014 to 2017.

Kenny Bee 鍾鎮濤 (Tung) is a prominent Hong Kong singer, musician, and actor. As a founding member of the 1970s Hong Kong band, Wynners, the group played a pivotal role in popularizing Western pop music in the region, later transitioning to Cantonese songs in the early 1980s.

Bee expanded his career into acting, earning acclaim as the lead in the 1979 romantic drama 'The Story of a Small Town <小城故事>'. In 1983, he returned to Hong Kong and starred in the romantic comedy 'Let's Make Laugh <表錯七日情>', which became the third highest-grossing film in Hong Kong that year.

With nearly fifty years of experience as an actor and singer, Kenny Bee has been honoured with the prestigious Golden Needle Award twice—first in 1988 with Wynners and then as a solo artist in 2016, recognizing his significant contributions to the music industry.

Sally Yeh 葉蒨文 (Stool) is a renowned Hong Kong Cantopop singer and actress. She began her singing career in the early 1980s, relocating from Taiwan to Hong Kong to further pursue her dreams as a vocalist, and has since released thirty studio albums.

In 1984, Sally released her debut song 'Ten Past Midnight <零時十分>', written by singer-songwriter George Lam. The ballad not only became an instant hit but also earned the newcomer a 'Top Ten Golden Songs' award that year. As her singing career flourished, Yeh also became a sought-after leading lady in the film industry, co-starring in movies such as 'Cupid One <愛神一號>', 'Shanghai Blues <上海之夜>', and director Tsui Hark's 'Peking Opera Blues <刀馬旦>', which she received a Best Actress nomination at the Hong Kong Film Awards.

ABOUT FILM WORKSHOP

Film Workshop was founded in 1984 by Tsui Hark and Nansun Shi in Hong Kong. Already a renowned director and producer with a string of box office hits behind them, Tsui and Nansun wanted to create a workshop where foremost Asian filmmakers could work on films worthy of their artistic merit, and at the same time commercially viable for the films' investors.

Film Workshop has set endless trends in the Asian film scene since 1980s, namely the "A Better Tomorrow" series by John Woo, "A Chinese Ghost Story" series by Ching Siu-Tung and "Once Upon a Time in China" and "Detective Dee" series by Tsui himself. Not to mention the highest grossing Chinese film "The Battle of Lake Changjin" co-directed by Tsui.

Despite being icons of the Chinese cinema for four decades, Tsui and Nansun are still making films back-to-back with their tireless energy.

WORLD SALES:

Distribution Workshop

Contact – Jin Chen

Email – jin.chen@justcreative.studio