



MEDIA RELEASE

9:00am AEDT Thursday 23 November 2017

AACTA announces 'In Conversation' with Liu Yi and Alex Proyas

The Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) today announced that **WOLF WARRIOR II** screenwriter **Liu Yi** will travel to Sydney to speak alongside Australian director **Alex Proyas** as part of an AACTA In Conversation event.

Tickets to the 90-minute event, which will be held during AACTA ScreenWeek on Tuesday 5 December at AFTRS in Sydney, are complimentary for public and industry alike. Tickets can be secured by booking via www.aacta.org.

The event will see **Liu Yi** and **Alex Proyas** discuss 'Filmmaking for a Global Audience', giving film fans and industry the opportunity to hear first-hand insights on a range of topics, including:

- The Asian film industry, which is now the world's largest film market;
- The Chinese box office, which will become the number one box office by 2020;
- Asia's shift towards international casting and foreign destinations; and
- Working with cross-cultural cultural action and VFX teams to achieve world class sci-fi, action and fantasy.

Liu Yi will provide fascinating insight into screenwriting for Asian films and co-productions. His most recent work, the Best Asian Film presented by PR Asia-nominated film **WOLF WARRIOR II**, has become China's highest grossing film in history and the only non-Hollywood film to be included in the top 100 highest grossing films of all time.

Best known for his action and detective stories, **Liu Yi** is also the founder of China's largest collective of screenwriters. He has written dozens of feature films and television dramas for Chinese audiences and is currently working with Beijing-based Hollywood director **Renny Harlin** on the upcoming co-production **OPERATION SOMALIA**.

One of Australia's most commercially successful directors, producers and screenwriters, **Alex Proyas** is best known for directing films such as **I, ROBOT**, **DARK CITY** and **GODS OF EGYPT**. He was also the director of **Brandon Lee**'s final film **THE CROW** and is a sci-fi and VFX expert, passionate about creating original content.

The event will be moderated by Chinese-Australian actress and film producer **Sharon Zhang**. Sharon's projects include **CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON: SWORD OF DESTINY** and **Jackie Chan**'s Australian-Chinese co-production **BLEEDING STEEL**.

The AACTA Awards are proudly supported by the New South Wales Government through its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

– ENDS –

BIOGRAPHIES

Headshots of **Liu Yi**, **Alex Proyas** and **Sharon Zhang** can be downloaded from Dropbox: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bwzihqwiaswsux/AAC9xOJaEMZUPh7mFFyghlABa?dl=0>

A TALK BY PR ASIA

AACTA In Conversation with Liu Yi and Alex Proyas marks the launch of 'A Talk by PR Asia' – a series of media industry panels that will be held throughout the year in Sydney, Los Angeles, Beijing and Shanghai. Each panel will feature Asian and global practitioners and performers, and will be facilitated by a bilingual moderator. All 'A Talk' events will be highly visual and available to view online to a global audience.

Proceeds from 'A Talk' event tickets sales, media and sponsorship will be redirected to the program's International Mentorship Initiative for young creatives to transcend borders and learn alongside the world's leading directors, writers, artists and entrepreneurs. For more information, email contact@atalk.org.au.

Following this 'A Talk' will be a short on-stage interview with **Mario Andreacchio**, the pioneer of Australia's charge into the Chinese film industry. In 2011, Mario made the first Chinese-Australian co-production **THE DRAGON PEARL** that starred **Sam Neill**. Currently, Mario is developing a 40-part Chinese television drama and several co-productions. Mario has also secured a major China-backed film fund and will be sharing insights from his experience.

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