

A TOUCH OF SPRING

UN PRINTEMPS D'AILLEURS

春色撩人

A FILM BY XIAODAN HE

和晓丹作品

FILMOPTION INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS A GREENGROUND AND RED DAWN PRODUCTION A TOUCH OF SPRING

A FILM BY XIAODAN HE STARRING WENSI YAN, ÉMILE PROULX-CLOUTIER, XUAN ZHAO, KEFA CUI AND CHENG YAN

PRODUCED BY AONAN YANG, ANDREAS MENDRITZKI, NGUYEN ANH NGUYEN AND XIAODAN HE LINE PRODUCER ANNICK BLANC

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: GLAUCO BERMUDEZ EDITOR TAO GU SOUND DESIGN: ANDREAS MENDRITZKI WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY XIAODAN HE



SODREC
Québec

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CINÉMA

TELEFILM
CANADA

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Canada
CINÉMA





SYNOPSIS

Li Fang (Wensi Yan) is a Chinese immigrant who has been living in Montreal for over 10 years. Her infertility and her violent separation from her Québécois husband, Eric (Émile Proulx-Cloutier), have pushed her to the brink of despair. Escaping the chaos in Montreal, Li Fang visits her grandfather in Dazu, her birthplace in south China. The support and inspiration provided by her family and an old lover helps her break the impasse in her life.

CREDITS

MAIN CREDITS

Written and directed by Xiaodan He
Producers Aonan Yang
Andreas Mendritzki
Nguyen-Anh Nguyen
Xiaodan He
Director of Photography Glauco Bermudez
Editor Tao Gu
Sound Designer Andreas Mendritzki

MAIN CAST

Wen-si Yan Fang
Émile Proulx Cloutier Eric
Xuan Zhao Xu
Cheng Yan Grandma
Kefa Cui Grandpa



A TOUCH OF SPRING

DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Born in 1975, Xiaodan He, a Chinese-Canadian filmmaker, has studied film production at the Beijing Film Academy from 1993 to 1997. Being from a Chinese ethnic minority, Naxi, she worked for the Yunnan Minority Film Studio as an assistant producer and then as an assistant director.

In 2002, Xiaodan directed her first film, *The Dance of The Star*, which is a story about the loss of the Naxi culture in China. In the same year, she moved to Montréal, Canada and has continued her work as a filmmaker. In 2005, her short film on the life of the immigrants, *Cairo Calling*, has received a resounding success, with screenings in over 50 festivals around the world and two audience awards.

In 2009, Xiaodan finished her documentary, *The Fall of Womenland*. Coming from the same ethnic background as the Mosuo, Xiaodan went back again to the region to find out the truth behind the controversial sexual custom that once made her feel ashamed of her roots as a youngster. Presently, Xiaodan He's latest feature fiction, *A Touch of Spring*, as well as her documentary, *A Journey with My Father*, are both in post-production. She is also writing her next screenplay, *Montréal, ma belle*.

DIRECTOR FILMOGRAPHY

A JOURNEY WITH MY FATHER (post-production) - 2018

A TOUCH OF SPRING - 2017

THE FALL OF WOMENLAND - 2009

CAIRO CALLING - 2005



ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES



WENSI YAN- Li Fang

Wensi Yan was born in Shanghai, China and immigrated to Montreal, Canada at age of 11. She is an actress, pianist, dancer and has been the artistic director and principal choreographer to the Phoenix HuaYun Artistic Troupe, an acclaimed Chinese artistic group in Canada for the past 10 years.

Mirror, Mirror dir. Tarsem Singh (USA, Feature, 2012)

Alice in Wonderland l'Arsenal à Musique (Canada, Play, 2010-2012)

Wish You Were Here dir. Shui Bo Wang (Canada, Short, 2007)



ÉMILE PROULX-CLOUTIER - Éric

Émile Proulx-Cloutier is a Canadian actor that graduated from Montreal's Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in 2006. Since his debut, he starred in many plays and in numerous television series and feature films. He recently assumed the lead role in the French-Canadian television series *30 vies*, produced by Fabienne Larouche. He is a versatile actor and a committed artist who is highly appreciated by the Quebec public.

30 vies - Season 9 (Quebec, TV, 2015)

Toute la vérité (Quebec, TV, 2009-2014)

L'autre maison, dir. Roy Mathieu (Quebec, fiction, 2013)

Pour l'amour de Dieu, dir. Micheline Lanctôt (Quebec, fiction, 2011)

Le Déserteur, dir. Simon Lavoie (Quebec, fiction, 2008)



XUAN ZHAO - Xu

Xuan Zhao was born in Beijing, China, graduated from The Central Academy of Drama. He is regarded as "Xi Ju Yi Ge" ("戏剧一哥"), meaning the most popular male actor on stage. He has performed in more than 20 films, TV series and stage plays.

Yue Shi dir. Wang Jiaming (China, Feature, 2015)

Da Qing Bao Dian dir. You Xiaogang (China, TV, 2013)

Mei Li Huang Yan dir. Jin Tao (China, TV, 2011)

San Guo dir. Gao Xixi (China, TV, 2010)



KEFA CUI - Grandpa

Born in 1938, Kefa Cui is one of the oldest and most popular Chinese actors today. An icon in China, he is known for his work, among other things, as supporting actor in more than 30 feature films and 50 TV series.

Jian Bing Xia dir. Da Peng (China, Feature, 2015)

Love Needs One More Night dir. Zheng Zhen (China, Feature, 2013)

Stronger Than Earthquake dir. Cui Lixin (China, Feature, 2011)

Nu Ren de Zhan Zheng dir. Shen Yue (China, TV, 2008)



CREW BIOGRAPHIES

FENG MEI - Script Consultant

Feng Mei, our script consultant, received the prize for best screenplay at Cannes in 2009 for the movie *Spring Fever*. He also wrote the movies *Mystery* (2012) and *Summer Palace* (2006).

GLAUCO BERMUDEZ - Director of Photography

Mexican-Canadian director of photography Glauco Bermudez, winner of the Golden Frog Award, the most prestigious award in the world for cinematography, is on board to ensure the superb image quality of the movie.

TAO GU - Editor

Tao Gu is a film author and editor who started filmmaking in 2005. His award winning experimental film *On the Way to the Sea* (2010) has been shown in more than 40 film festivals worldwide. *The Vanishing Spring Light* (2011) that he edited has won significant prizes at IDFA and Cinéma du Réel. His latest 2017 film *Taming the Horse* has already been selected to numerous renowned international film festivals. Currently, Tao Gu is editing Director Xiaodan He's next film *Montréal, ma belle*.

ANDREAS MENDRITZKI - Sound Designer

Andreas began pursuing his passion in the realm of sound in cinema since his student hood in Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema at Concordia University. During the years, Andreas has designed the sound for a number of films, including 2016 Toronto International Film Festival's Canada's Top Ten *Werewolf* and Fantasia International Film Festival's closing film *Mon ami Dino*.

PRODUCER BIOGRAPHIES

AONAN YANG

Aonan Yang, a graduate of the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema at Concordia University, is originally from China, and immigrated to Canada when he was a teenager. In 2008, Aonan was selected to participate in the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival Talent Lab. He also attended Berlinale in 2011 on invitation from Telefilm's Producers Without Borders. Currently, Aonan is involved in four international feature productions involving Canada, China, France and Argentina.

ANDREAS MENDRITZKI

Andreas was drawn to cinema as a meeting-point, where people and technology, art and science, business and creative practices must all intersect. Upon receiving his undergraduate degree from the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema at Concordia University, he was appointed the school's most outstanding graduate. He is a founding member of GreenGround Productions, a Montréal based production company, as well as its sister company, CineGround, a leading camera rental and post-production facility. Recent projects include: feature documentaries *In the Waves* which opened at Vision du Réel in 2017, *Mon Ami Dino*, which closed the 2016 edition of the Fantasia Film Festival, and *We are Still Together*, which premiered at Karlovy Vary in 2016, as well as the forthcoming features *A Touch of Spring* and *Primas*.

NGUYEN-ANH NGUYEN

Born in Saigon, Vietnam, Nguyen-Anh arrived in Quebec at the age of six. He first completed a Doctorate in Dental Medicine at the University of Montreal in 2004, then did a residency at the University of Rochester, NY. In 2008, following his passion for the moving image, he went on to graduate from the Film Production program at the prestigious Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema and co-founded GreenGround Productions. He has since written, directed and produced a number of award winning and internationally acclaimed short films. In 2014, he was named by SODEC one of the 5 upcoming producers in Quebec. His passion for film has always been rooted in intelligent and exciting science-fiction. He is now developing different television and feature film projects, firmly geared in that genre.



A TOUCH OF SPRING



TECHNICAL INFO

RUNNING TIME
87 minutes

ASPECT RATIO
2.39

FORMAT
DCP/Bluray

GENRE
Drama

LANGUAGE
Mandarin and French with English and French subtitles

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