

HAF 14 Man on the Dragon

萬水千山縱橫

Man On The Dragon

監製 導演

馬廖陳
偉婉詠
豪虹葵

Produced by Joe Ma and Jacqueline Liu
Directed by Sunny Chan



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Hong Kong

GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME: Comedy, Drama | HD | Cantonese | 90 mins

DIRECTOR:

Sunny CHAN

PRODUCERS:

Joe MA, Jacqueline LIU

HAF GOALS:

Funds

BUDGET:

US\$2,000,000

SECURED BUDGET:

US\$300,000

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

First Feature Director

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

What is the potential of MEN? Five middle-aged men put all their efforts into a dragon boat. It's not about winning a boat race, but winning their games of lives!

SYNOPSIS

What is the potential of MEN?

We can meet any challenges and are willing to be somebody before the age of 20, but we become too stable and too scared of changes when we hit middle-age.

Five men were selected to be part of the Dragon Boat Championships representing their company. Regardless of their fitness, there's no reason for them to refuse, as they were too scared to be laid off in their middle age. Reluctantly, they began the tough dragon boat training.

While the five men gradually got better in their training, things were getting worse in their lives. Lung fell in love with his neighbor Ling and became especially nice to Ling's children. But after all, the relationship may only be wishful thinking. Tai could not face the fact that his wife was having an affair. The man's self-esteem disrupted his cool head at any time. Suk Yee had a dull life with his wife for years. Can he refuse temptation when the time comes? William wanted to be a family man again to save his marriage. His wife was turning back, but he realized how much he hated this "family-man" self. Fu accidentally got stuck on a playgirl, until he found out who that girl was.

With all the problems on the table, the only option is the dragon boat! The five men put all the efforts and spirits they've ever had into the dragon boat championship. It's not only winning a boat race, but also winning the games of their lives!

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A hexagram of "I Ching" called "Sunken dragon is not being used" has two explanations. The dragon has hidden deep by days, but eventually it has been eaten by life. Another explanation says the dragon has hidden low until the perfect moment to exert the potential to fly. That suggests it's time for you to make a leap into greatness. There's just a fine line between the dragon who can fly or not.

The Dragon Boat requires a high intensity of strength. Not only for professional athletes, it allows all to enjoy speed and aggressiveness. Also, the Dragon Boat is a symbol of Chinese tradition. The Dragon is a legendary animal. It represents traditional Chinese men who are brave and powerful as well.

Nowadays, men in Hong Kong face intense pressure in society. Would they have a chance to "make a leap into greatness"?

Man on the Dragon uses the Dragon Boat as the its theme, one rarely used in Hong Kong films but here intended to encourage people whom have burrowed deeply into their busy routines to review the meaning of lives and regain their passion and personal meanings.

There're five main characters representing men at 40, 50, and 60 years old. For a variety of reasons, they all feel lost and they think there is no future in lives.

Five men either choose to give up, compromise with destiny, or to continue to get lost ...

By rowing in the Dragon Boat, they regain the braveness and passion of lives. They find the courage to leave their depressive pasts behind and rock their way up to their "better selves".

How to define "make a leap into greatness"? It doesn't mean being "rich" or "powerful." It means you're brave enough to walk on, living a life with no regrets.

DIRECTOR

Sunny CHAN

Sunny Chan was a graduate of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA), earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Film and Television, majoring in screenwriting. He is also a master of Chinese Literature, film screenwriter and love column writer. His writings focus on affection, including the three prose series *Catch Me If You Can*, the novel *Searcher 1 – The Girl Eaten by Space* (2005), *HK Reading City* (2015) and a short novel *Say I Love You* (2016, as co-writer), etc.

From year 2000 to 2006, Sunny was a film screenwriter, creative director and coordinator in Brilliant Idea Group Limited and Singing Horse Production Limited. He wrote for 14 screenplays included *Funeral March* (2001), *the Love Undercover* series (2003) and *Diva... Ah Hey* (2003), etc. He was nominated in the 7th Golden Bauhinia Awards for the best original screenplay for the film *Funeral March* (2001).

In 2003 and 2004, Sunny was invited to be the guest speaker for the screenwriting major of Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Film and Television in HKAPA. He is now working as a lecturer on film and television studies in the university, together with his love column writing in newspaper AM730, magazine Cosmopolitan and More.

PRODUCER

Joe MA

Joe Ma is a Hong Kong film director, scriptwriter and producer. Among many of his directorial works, some of popular films include *Feel 100%* (1996), *Dummy Mommy*, *Without a Baby* (2001), *Love Undercover* (2002) and *Sound of Colors* (2003). Ma's *Over the Rainbow* (1994), *Under the*

Skirt (1994) was nominated for the Best Original Screenplay at the 31st Golden Horse Awards in Taiwan. Since 1997, Ma has produced over 20 films include *Funeral March* (2001), *Diva ... Ah Hey* (2003) and *Love Battlefield* (2004).

Jacqueline LIU

Since 2000, Liu has produced various commercial and independent films, including *Leaving Sorrowfully* (2000); *Butterfly* (2004), the opening film of International Critics' Week at the 58th Venice Film Festival; *August Story* (2006), awarded Best Film at the Taipei Film Festival; *Plastic City* (2008), in competition at the 65th Venice Film Festival; *Soundless Wind Chime* (2009), Teddy Award nominee at the 59th Berlin Film Festival; *Merry-Go-Round* (2010), the closing film of the 7th Hong Kong Asian Film Festival; *The Great War* (2013), which premiered at the New York Asian Film Festival; *K* (2015) and *Wild City* (2015).

PRODUCTION COMPANY

One Cool Film Production Limited

Founded in 2013, One Cool Film Production Limited is a multifaceted movie investment and production company. The company has produced *Golden Chicken SSS* (2014), *Naked Ambition 3D* (2014), *12 Golden Ducks* (2015), *Triumph in the Skies* (2015), *Little Big Master* (2015), *Wild City* (2015), *Get Outta Here* (2015), *Lazy Hazy Crazy* (2015), and *Keeper of Darkness* (2015). Upcoming projects include *Virtus*, *MEOW*, *Storm Cloud*, *Hercules Xue*, *The Mighty Palms of Tathagata*, *The Little Big Monsters*, and *Back to the Past*. Films to be released in 2016 include *Love Revolution*, *Sisterhood* (working title), *Heartfall Arises* and *Line Walker*, etc.