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A MAGNET RELEASE

IP MAN: KUNG FU MASTER

A film by Li Liming
83 minutes

FINAL PRESS NOTES

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SYNOPSIS

IP MAN: KUNG FU MASTER harks back to Ip's early days before the Communist Revolution in 1949. Ip, portrayed by Dennis To for the third time as the martial artist who famously tutored Bruce Lee, was then a police captain who was framed for the murder of a ruthless but honorable mobster, and targeted for vengeance by his dangerous daughter. Forced to quit the force, Ip soon also has to contend with the arrival of the Japanese army in Guangzhou.

DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT – LI LIMING

IP MAN: KUNG FU MASTER embodies the word “confrontation.” The protagonist Ip Man struggles with himself and fights against evil forces, creating a person who stands up in times of national crisis, does not fear sacrifice, does what is right, and safeguards national dignity and national interests. The image of a real warrior. The film is not only a patriotic film, but it also arouses the audience's thinking about faith, through the problems that Ip Man encounters on the road of life and martial arts. There is some philosophy in the excitement.

CAST STATEMENT – DENNIS TO

This my second time playing the role of Ip Man. But this time, Ip Man is also the “Black Knight,” which made me look forward to making the film even more. After I got the script, I pondered over and over again. This time I was able to bring to the role of Ip Man not only a higher level of Wing Chun skill, but also a deeper level of interpretation.

ABOUT THE FILM

This is the third time Dennis To plays the role of Ip Man, after 2010’s *Ip Man: The Legend is born* (directed by Herman Yau), and 2018’s *Kung Fu League* (directed by Jeff Lau).

Ip Chun, the son of Ip Man, has praised Dennis To as the most accurate portrayal of his father. He even shared a fight scene with To in 2010’s *Ip Man: The Legend is born*, as a sign of respect.

In an interview to Singaporean TV channel RazorTV, Ip Chun explained: “ I did teach Donnie Yen some Kung Fu. He had to act as Ip Man, so he had to learn Wing Chun. But for Dennis To, before he even thought about going into acting, he was already my grand-disciple. I had better chemistry with Dennis To.”

At the very start of his acting career, Dennis To actually played small roles in Wilson Yip’s *Ip Man* and *Ip Man 2*, starring Donnie Yen. In these films, he also worked as a martial arts consultant.

Before becoming an actor, Dennis To was a decorated champion of the Chinese martial art of Wushu, including a gold medal at the World Wushu Championships in 1999 (at 18, this made him China’s youngest world Wushu champion ever), 2001 and 2003, as well as at the 2005 East Asian Games.

As an actor, Dennis To is a two-time Hong Kong Film Awards nominee.

Actress Yuan Li Ruo Xin's performance in the action scenes was considerably helped by her practice of ballet dancing since the age of three.

After *Ip Man: Kung Fu Master*, director Li Liming will go further into Ip Man's youth, with the prequel *Young Ip Man*, which will star rising Chinese actor Zhao Wenhao in the title role.

CAST FILMOGRAPHY

DENNIS TO

Ip Man (2008)
Bodyguards and Assassins (2009)
Ip Man 2 (2010)
Ip Man :The Legend Is Born - Ip Man (2010)
Choy Lee Fut (2011)
The Harbor (2011)
1911 (2011)
The Woman Knight of Mirror Lake (2011)
Summer Love (2011)
Wu Dang (2012)
Zombie 108 (2012)
Princess and Seven Kung Fu Masters (2013)
Kung Fu League (2018)
A Lifetime Treasure (2019)
The Grandmaster of Kung Fu (2019)
Ip Man: Kung Fu Master (2020)

YUAN LI RUO XIN

The Cage of Time (2018)
The Rules of Love (2019)
Ip Man: Kung Fu Master (2020)

MICHAEL WONG

Legacy of Rage (1986)
Royal Warriors (1986)
In the Line of Duty 4 (1989)
Tiger Cage III (1991)
Rose (1992)
City Hunter (1993)
Return to a Better Tomorrow (1994)
The Final Option (1994)
Thunderbolt (1995)
Twinkle Twinkle Lucky Star (1996)

First Option (1996)
Option Zero (1997)
Enter the Eagles (1998)
Beast Cops (1998)
Knock Off (1998)
Partners (2002)
The New Option (2002)
The New Option - Saviour (2003)
PTU File - Death Trap (2005)
Seven Swords (2005)
House of Fury (2005)
Overheard (2009)
Triple Tap (2010)
Dear Enemy (2011)
Shadowguard (2011)
Nightfall (2012)
Glory Days (2012)
Cold War (2012)
SDU: Sex Duties Unit (2013)
Firestorm (2013)
Transformers: Age of Extinction (2014)
From Vegas to Macau (2014)
Z Storm (2014)
Zombie Fight Club (2014)
Skiptrace (2016)
Agent Mr Chan (2018)
Chasing the Dragon II: Wild Wild Bunch (2019)
Ip Man: Kung Fu Master (2020)

FILMMAKER FILMOGRAPHY

LI LIMING

Peerless Hero (2018)
Zhong Kui (2019)
Ip Man: Kung Fu Master (2020)

CREDITS

CAST:

DENNIS TO
YUAN LI RUOXIN
TONG XIAOHU
YUE DONGFENG
CHANG QINYUAN
ZHAO XIAOGUANG
REN YU
AND MICHAEL WONG

DIRECTOR LI LIMING

PRODUCED BY BAILE MEDIA

PRODUCED BY XU HUIDAN, SUI XIAONAN, WANG NAN, ZHOU LILI

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ACTION DIRECTOR SUN FEI

STYLIST YANG JIE