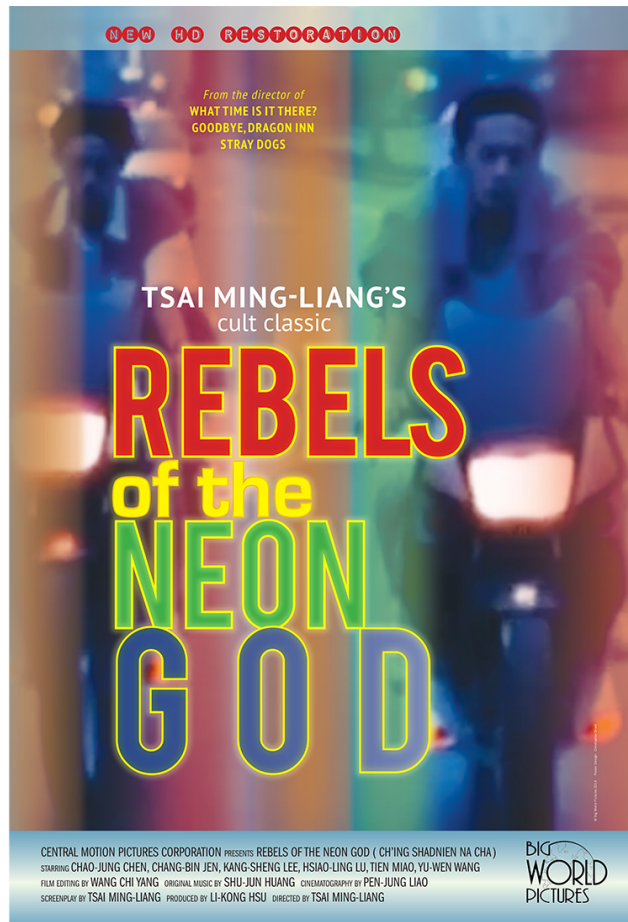


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NY THEATRICAL RELEASE: APRIL 10TH
LA THEATRICAL RELEASE: JUNE 12TH

SYNOPSIS

REBELS OF THE NEON GOD

(*CH'ING SHADNIEN NA CHA*)

Dir. Tsai Ming-liang

Taiwan / 1992/2014 / 106 min / DCP

In Mandarin, with English subtitles

Aspect ratio: 1.85:1 Sound: Dual Mono

Best First Film – Nantes Three Continents Film Festival

Best Film – International Feature Film Competition – Torino Intl. Festival of Young Cinema

Best Original Score – Golden Horse Film Festival

Tsai Ming-liang emerged on the world cinema scene in 1992 with his groundbreaking first feature, *REBELS OF THE NEON GOD*. His debut already includes a handful of elements familiar to fans of subsequent work: a deceptively spare style often branded “minimalist”; actor Lee Kang-sheng as the silent and sullen Hsiao-kang; copious amounts of water, whether pouring from the sky or bubbling up from a clogged drain; and enough urban anomie to ensure that even the subtle humor in evidence is tinged with pathos.

The loosely structured plot involves Hsiao-kang, a despondent cram school student, who becomes obsessed with young petty thief Ah-tze, after Ah-tze smashes the rearview mirror of a taxi driven by Hsiao-kang’s father. Hsiao-kang stalks Ah-tze and his buddy Ah-ping as they hang out in the film’s iconic arcade (featuring a telling poster of James Dean on the wall) and other locales around Taipei, and ultimately takes his revenge.

REBELS OF THE NEON GOD is a remarkably impressive first film that hints at the promise of its director: a talent confirmed by Tsai’s equally stunning second feature, *VIVE L’AMOUR* (Golden Lion, Venice), and continuing to his most recent film, *STRAY DOGS*, which ranked high on many “best of” lists last year. Though showing such diverse influences as the French New Wave, Wong Kar-wai’s early films—and, yes, *REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE*—Tsai’s film is most remarkable for introducing his startlingly unique vision to world cinema.

PRESS

“No director since Fassbinder has such insight into the lives of lost young men in crumbling inner cities as Tsai Ming-Liang delivers in this devastating first feature. Brilliantly observed, with dialogue kept to a minimum, and as tender as a Lou Reed elegy.”

–Tony Rayns, *Time Out London*

"A near-masterpiece, and one of the most assured and accomplished debuts of the 1990s."

–Ignatiy Vishnevetsky, *The Chicago Reader*

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

2013 STRAY DOGS

2009 FACE

2006 I DON'T WANT TO SLEEP ALONE

2005 THE WAYWARD CLOUD

2003 GOOD BYE, DRAGON INN

2001 WHAT TIME IS IT THERE?

1998 THE HOLE

1997 THE RIVER

1994 VIVE L'AMOUR

1992 REBELS OF THE NEON GOD

CAST

Chen Chao-jung
Jen Chang-ben
Lee Kang-sheng
Lu Hsiao-ling
Tien Miao
Wang Yu-wen

Ah-tze
Ah-ping
Hsiao-kang
Mother
Father
Ah-kuei

CREDITS

Director & writer
Tsai Ming-liang

Producer
Hsu Li-kong

Cinematography
Liao Pen-jung

Art direction
Lee Pao-lin

Editor
Wang Chi Yang

Music
Huang Shu-jun

Sound
Hu Ting-yi

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