

For Immediate Release



AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR BRUCE BERESFORD AND LEAD ACTOR CHI CAO IN SINGAPORE TO PROMOTE MAO'S LAST DANCER

Singapore, 25th March 2010 – Director Bruce Beresford and Lead Actor Chi Cao will be in Singapore to promote their forthcoming movie **MAO'S LAST DANCER** 《舞》, from Tuesday, 13th April 2010.

Bruce Beresford is the internationally-acclaimed Australian film director responsible for luminary past works including *Driving Miss Daisy* which was awarded four Oscars®, including Best Picture in 1989. Known best for his period pieces and small scale dramas, Beresford has directed 6 different actors in Oscar-nominated performances: Robert Duvall, Sissy Spacek, Tess Harper, Jessica Tandy, Morgan Freeman and Dan Aykroyd. Tandy and Duvall won Oscars for their performances in Beresford's movies. In 1997, Bruce was in Singapore to film *Paradise Road*, starring Glenn Close and Cate Blanchett, a gripping drama about female POWs in South East Asia during the war.

His latest offering **MAO'S LAST DANCER** also features the resplendent performance by the film's lead actor Chi Cao. This is Chi Cao's debut feature film, where he plays the adult Li Cunxin, the Chinese ballet dancer that defected to the US in 1979, causing international headlines at the time. Chi received his formal training at the Beijing Dance Academy and the Royal Ballet School, and has been the principal dancer at the Birmingham Royal Ballet since 2002.

A press conference will be held on Wednesday, 14th April 2010 where there will be interview opportunities with the director and actor, details to be announced later. They will also grace the



opening of this year's Singapore International Film Festival held at Shaw Lido on Thursday, 15th April 2010.

From a grueling apprenticeship as a classical dancer in communist China, to the glory of creative freedom in America, **MAO'S LAST DANCER 《舞》** tells an inspirational true story of a small boy's extraordinary journey from poverty to international stardom. But, there is a painful price to be paid for his quest for self expression. The movie captures the intoxicating effects of first love and celebrity, the pain of exile, and ultimately the triumph of individual endeavour over ideology. Filmed in China, the US and Australia and with a brilliant performance from Chi Cao as Li Cunxin, **MAO'S LAST DANCER** is an exhilarating exploration of what it means to be free.

An audience winner at the Toronto International Film Festival, **MAO'S LAST DANCER 《舞》** was runner up for the highly coveted People's Choice Award, won in 2008 by *Slumdog Millionaire*. It is the biggest Australian film opening for 2009 and fifth biggest Australian film opening ever.

MAO'S LAST DANCER 《舞》 opens in Singapore on 22nd April 2010 and is distributed by Golden Village Pictures.

Official movie website: <http://www.maoslastdancermovie.com/>

About Golden Village Pictures

Established in 1993, Golden Village Pictures is one of Singapore's leading movie distributors, releasing titles ranging from blockbusters like the "Matrix" trilogy, "Happy Feet," "Ocean's Twelve" and "Kill Bill Vols 1 & 2" to art house gems such as "Finding Neverland," "Motorcycle Diaries," "The Pianist" to world-acclaimed documentary "Super Size Me" and Singapore's home grown movie products like Kelvin Tong's *The Maid*, Jack Neo's "One More Chance" and "Just Follow Law" as well as "One Last Chance" and "Protégé." More information about Golden Village Pictures can be found at <http://www.gv.com.sg/>.

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