

hou hsiao-hsien

NIE YINNIANG

Taiwan, 2015, 35mm, 104', col.



THE ASSASSIN

regia/director

Hou Hsiao-Hsien

sceneggiatura/screenplay

Hou Hsiao-Hsien,

Chu Tien-Wen, Hsieh Hai-

Meng, Zhong Acheng

fotografia/cinematography

Mark Lee Ping Bing

montaggio/film editing

Liao Ching-Sung,

Huang Chih-Chia

scenografia, costumi/

production design,

costume design

Hwaring Wern-Ying

musica/music

Lim Giong

suono/sound

Tu Duu-Chih

interpreti e personaggi/ cast and characters

Shu Qi (Nie Yinniang),

Chang Chen (Tian Jian),

il governatore di

Weibo/governor of Weibo),

Zhou Yun (Lady Tian),

Tsumabuki Satoshi

(il lavavetri/mirror polisher),

Juan Ching-Tian (Xia Jing),

Hsieh Hsin-ying (Huji),

Sheu Fang-yi

(la principessa/princess

Jiacheng, la sacerdotessa-

principessa/the Princess-nun

Jiaxin)

produttori/producers

Hou Hsiao-Hsien, Chen

Yiqi, Lam Peter, Lin Kufn,

Gou Tai-Chiang,

Tung Tzu-Hsien

distribuzione/distribution

Movies Inspired

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contatti/contacts

Movies Inspired

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Hou Hsiao-Hsien (Cina, 1947), nato in Cina ma trasferitosi a Taiwan, dopo aver studiato alla Taiwan National University of Arts, ha lavorato come assistente alla regia, per poi esordire nella regia nel 1980 con *Cute Girl* ed essere consacrato da *I ragazzi di Feng Kuei* (1983). Tra i numerosi riconoscimenti ottenuti dal suo cinema, il premio Fipresci della Berlinale per il capolavoro *Tempo di vivere, tempo di morire* (1985), il Leone d'oro alla Mostra di Venezia per *Città dolente* (1989) e il premio della giuria a Cannes per *Il maestro burattinaio* (1993). Hou ha fatto ritorno a Cannes in diverse occasioni, ricevendo il gran premio della giuria per *Millenium Mambo* (2001) e il premio per la miglior regia proprio per *The Assassin*.

Hou Hsiao-Hsien (China, 1947) was born in China but moved to Taiwan. After studying at Taiwan National University of Arts, he worked as an assistant director, debuted in directing in 1980 with *Cute Girl* and gained fame with *All the Youthful Days* (1983). He have won many awards, including the FIPRESCI Prize at the Berlin Film Festival for his masterpiece *A Time to Live and a Time to Die* (1985), the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival for *A City of Sadness* (1989) and the Jury Prize at Cannes for *The Puppetmaster* (1993). Hou has returned to Cannes several times, receiving the Grand Jury Prize for *Millenium Mambo* (2001) and the prize for Best Director for *The Assassin*.

filmografia essenziale/ essential filmography

Jiu shi liu liu de ta (*Cute Girl*, 1980),
Feng er ti ta cai (*Blind of Love*, 1981),
Zai hu hepan qingcao qing (*The Green, Green Grass of Home*, 1983), *Fenggui lai de ren* (*I ragazzi di Feng Kuei*, 1983), *Tong nian wang shi* (*Tempo di vivere, tempo di morire*, 1985), *Lianlian Fengchen* (*Dust in the Wind*, 1986), *Beijing chengshi* (*Città dolente*, 1989), *Hsimeng Rensheng* (*Il maestro burattinaio*, 1993), *Hao nan, hao nü* (*Good Men, Good Women*, 1995), *Nanguo zaijian, nanguo* (*Goodbye South, Goodbye*, 1996), *Hai shang hua* (*Flowers of Shanghai*, 1998), *Qianxi Mambo* (*Millennium Mambo*, 2001), *Kôhî jikô* (*Café Lumière*, 2003), *Zui hao de shi guang* (*Three Times*, 2005), *Le voyage du ballon rouge* (2007), *A chacun son cinéma* (ep. *The Electric Princess House*, cm, 2007), *Nie Yinniang* (*The Assassin*, 2015).

In 9th century China, a ten-year-old girl named Nie Yinniang is taken away from her parents and raised to become an assassin to fight the spreading corruption and cruelty in the provinces of the Empire. Thirteen years later, after failing in a mission, the punishment inflicted on her by her combat instructor is even more harsh than the rigid discipline she had to undergo. Nie Yinniang will have to return to her home and kill the man she was supposed to marry, a cousin she is still in love with.

"I've known and loved the Tang Dynasty chuanqi since my high school and college days, and I've long dreamed of filming them. The Assassin is directly inspired by one of them, titled Nie Yinniang. You could say that I took the basic dramatic idea from it. The literature of the period is shot through with details of everyday life; you could call it 'realist' in that sense. But I needed more than that for the film, so I spent a long time reading accounts and histories of that period to familiarise myself with the ways people ate, dressed and so on. I was attentive to the smallest details."