



Official Selection

# A Leg (腿)

A film by CHANG Yaosheng (張耀升)

Starring GWEI Lun-Mei (桂綸鎂) and Yo YANG (楊祐寧)



2020 / 115 min. / Drama, Romance / Taiwan / Color / Mandarin Chinese

## About *A Leg*



2020 Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival Opening Film

33<sup>rd</sup> Tokyo International Film Festival World Focus Section

Produced by acclaimed filmmaker CHUNG Mong-Hong (*A Sun*), starred by GWEI Lun-Mei (*The Wild Goose Lake*) and Yo YANG (*The Adventurers*), *A Leg* is an unconventional love story that warms your heart with laughter and tears.

Nominated for Best Original Screenplay at the 2019 Golden Horse Awards for *A Sun*, CHANG Yaosheng made his debut feature *A Leg* as a writer-director with CHUNG Mong-Hong (鍾孟宏) as producer. CHANG paired GWEI Lun-Mei and Yo YANG as a couple who fell for each other over ballroom dancing. The husband dies of a leg amputation and the wife suffers from bureaucracy of the hospital simply because of her wish to keep her husband's body intact. As the twisted and absurd journey of retrieving the leg unfolds, their past of love and regrets also surfaces. GWEI and YANG dance over the score composed by LU Luming (*Detention*, the 2019 winner of Best Original Film Song at the Golden Horse Awards), and brilliantly deliver the various bittersweet aspects of love.



## **Logline**

She is not ready to dance with life again... until she finds her dead husband's missing leg.

## **Short Synopsis**

This story begins with a leg about to be amputated. The leg's owner is Zi-Han who thought he would soon be discharged from the hospital soon after the operation but develops complications and passes away unexpectedly. His wife Yu-Ying is inspired to seek his missing leg. During the course, she starts to recall how he led her in a waltz when they first met, how they fell in love, and how their relationship gradually shattered. Retrieving the leg is how she tries to properly say farewell to the man she once loved. Only after that can she begin her own journey by herself.

## **Long Synopsis**

The leg's owner is ZHENG Zi-Han who originally thought he would be discharged from the hospital soon after the operation. But one day later, he suddenly and unexpectedly develops complications from septicemia and passes away. After Zi-Han dies, his wife QIAN Yu-Ying is suddenly inspired to help him seek the whereabouts of his vanished leg.

During the course of Yu-Ying's return to the hospital to find the leg, the story is told of how she and Zi-Han became acquainted, fell in love, and how their relationship gradually shattered. Yu-Ying recalls their first meeting, when Zi-Han led her in a waltz, and how it was originally because she loved Zi-Han that his dream to become an international ballroom dance champion became her own dream. She began striving toward this aspiration, but Zi-Han himself strayed from the path of his dream, even spoiling his own future prospects.

As their past appears vividly in her mind, Yu-Ying's motivation in searching for the leg also becomes more and more clear. Although the process of finding the leg is far from smooth, thanks to the strength forged from mediating Zi-Han's past difficulties, she has developed a kind of attitude of sincerity and earnestness to resolve various crises.

When Zi-Han's leg is finally retrieved and brought back to his body, Yu-Ying recognizes that her perseverance was actually for the sake of properly thanking and saying farewell to this man whom she once loved and sacrificed for, and that after this, Yu-Ying will begin her own journey by herself.

## Director's Biography



Born in Nantou, Taiwan, in 1975, CHANG Yaosheng is a novelist who has won many literature awards in Taiwan. He is also a screenplay writer whose work, *A Sun*, was nominated in the Golden Horse Awards for Best Original Screenplay in 2019. *A Leg* is his first feature film, adapted by his parents' true story.

## Director's Filmography

- 2013 *Fleshly Meat Pies* (Short Film)
- 2014 *Blue Neck Ring* (Screenplay)
- 2015 *Seams* (Short Animation)
- 2016 *The End of Toby's Mornings* (TV Movie)
- 2017 *The Village of No Return* (Screenplay)
- 2017 *New Wu-long Yuan* (Screenplay)
- 2017 *See You after Life* (TV Movie)
- 2017 *In Soul* (Short film)
- 2019 *A Sun* (Screenplay)
- 2020 *A Leg* (Feature film, screenplay and director)

## Director's Statement

*A Leg*, my first feature film, is based on the true story of my mother retrieving my father's amputation—considered a clinical waste to doctors—which was critical evidence for my mother's love to her dead husband. Her never-compromising quest was a nightmare which brought on all kinds of disturbing pressure in that time. However, 20 years later, time makes distance and distance brings humor which all together gives this story the funny and weeping tone that sings the lead vocal in my first film.

## Credits

Production Company: Creamfilm Production

Presenting Companies:

Creamfilm Production, MirrorFiction Inc., MandarinVision Co., Ltd.

## Cast

GWEI Lun-Mei as QIAN Yu-Ying

Yo YANG as ZHENG Zi-Han

## Crew

Director: CHANG Yaosheng

Producer: CHUNG Mong-Hong (鍾孟宏)

Presented by TSENG Shao-Chien (曾少千)& TUNG Cheng-Yu (董成瑜)& YEH Jufeng (葉如芬)

Writers: CHUNG Mong-Hong & CHANG Yaosheng

Director of Photography: Nagao NAKASHIMA (中島長雄)

Gaffer: CHEN Chih-Hsuan (陳志軒)

Art Director: CHAO Shih-Hao (趙思豪)

Sound Designers: TU Duu-Chih (杜篤之) & WU Shu-Yao (吳書瑤)

Editor: LAI Hsiu-Hsiung (賴秀雄)

Costume: HSU Li-Wen (許力文)

Music: LU Luming (盧律銘)

## Festival & Sales Contact



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