



## **FUJIAN BLUE**

**A film by WENG Shouming**

Winner, Dragons & Tigers Award, Vancouver Film Festival  
Official Selection, Rotterdam International Film Festival  
Official Selection, Pusan International Film Festival  
Official Selection, Mill Valley Film Festival  
Official Selection, Deauville Asian Film Festival  
Official Selection, Edinburgh International Film Festival

*"Marvelous; a powerful social comment. Weng's work captures this situation with remarkable clarity."*  
—Gautaman Bhaskaran, *The Hollywood Reporter*

*"Stunning cinematography and understated acting merge for a rapturous experience in Fujian Blue."*  
—Mike Fu, *Columbia University*

Part of the dGenerate Collection at Icarus Films  
An Icarus Films Release



## SYNOPSIS 1

In *Fujian Blue*, two interweaving stories of youth crime and family crisis shed light on illegal emigration and human trafficking in China's Fujian province, in this award-winning debut feature.

In the southeastern coastal province of Fujian, Amerika and Roppongi (whose names refer to their absent fathers' whereabouts) front "The Neon Knights", a young band of delinquents caught up in fast living. They fuel their riotous routine by videotaping and blackmailing rich women engaged in trysts while their emigrant husbands are sending checks from overseas. Amerika's ruthlessness is put to the test when he catches his own mother in an affair. Meanwhile, fellow gang member Dragon, who turns to crime to pay his family's debt from smuggling his brother to Ireland, goes into hiding after stabbing a man. After an unexpected windfall, Dragon ponders whether to follow his brother out of the country or to help his family.

Robin Weng's debut brings alive the world of Fujian, notoriously known as China's centre for illegal emigration and human trafficking. Shot vividly on film with street-level realism, Fujian becomes a blistering microcosm for an entire generation of young Chinese lost in the global era. *Fujian Blue* is an unflinching depiction of the effect of globalization.

## SYNOPSIS 2

Knights—Amerika, Roppongi and their friends, so nicknamed because of the places their emigré fathers live—use their imported digital cameras to film wealthy remittance widows (left behind by the emigrant worker husbands) in trysts with their local lovers. They then proceed to blackmail the women, and use the proceeds to finance a night-life of drink, drugs, girls and karaoke. But when Amerika discovers that his own mother has taken a lover and decides to blackmail her, the gang is forced to take a stand...

An engaging study of the ennui of youth trapped between the superficial nothingness of home and the dangerous path of the illegal migrant worker. The lives and mischief of Chinese youth is refreshingly told by Robin Weng in his own original style.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Traditionally, the Fujianese have placed an emphasis on ties of family and clan, kinship and friendship. More recently, Fujian Province has been the nexus of a modern Chinese diaspora: her emigrants have sought better fortunes overseas, and many have not returned. This overseas emigration has been balanced by an internal migration, as Chinese from inland provinces relocate to Fujian for study or work. It is a cycle of emigration, immigration and deportation that enriches and impoverishes by turns.

The film portrays the decadence and self-destruction of a certain segment of Fujianese youth, a trend mirrored and emulated by their elders. But when the dream has ended, when the neon nights are over: What have we become on waking? And what does the hangover tell us about ourselves?

*Fujian Blue* is an independent film by independent minds about independent lives. Its characters and creations are tragic but tranquil, absurd and yet hopeful; they are damaged, but not beyond redemption, cynical yet sincere. By land and by water, by home and by sea, *Fujian Blue* is a portrait of life in contemporary China, PRC.

—WENG Shouming



## FILM CREDITS

English title: *Fujian Blue*  
A film in two parts. Part I: Neon Knights, Part II: At Home, At Sea  
Original title: *JIN BI HUI HUANG*  
Running time: 90 minutes  
Production country: China  
Production year: 2007  
Language: Mandarin/Fujianese with English subtitles

Director: Weng Shouming (aka Robin Weng)  
Producers: Weng Xiuping, Lin Fan, Kondo Teiko  
Producer: Zhang Xianmin  
Cast: Luo Jin  
Zhu Xiaopeng  
Chen Shu  
Wang Yinan  
Lin Yile  
Liu Haochen  
Li Zhaolin

Screenplay: Robin Weng, Chen Tao, Lin Yile  
Cinematography: Hai Tao, Shang Yi, Wang Yan  
Sound: Gao Yuguang, Yin Jie  
Production Designers: Chen Fei, Weng Yu  
Editor: Zeng Jian  
Sound Designer: Wang Lei  
Co-Producers: Gao Liyong, Chai Tao, Huang Wenbo, Zhu Rikun  
Production Manager: Peng Jian  
English translation: Cindy Carter

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