



BUREAU DE SURVEILLANCE DU CINÉMA
FICHE D'EXAMEN

4

TITRE (écran)	HEAD HUNTER, THE						V. antérieure		
							langue chinois	metrage	
V.O.							anglais	langue	
							s.t. chinois	s.t.	
							1ere instance (x)	cat.	
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							v. modifiée ()		
TOUT () 14 () 18 () REFUS () NON LIEU ()	R: 240811-2							Ver: 8630 / 2633 ^m / 96	documentation
IDENTITÉ	OR: 240811-2							M E T R A G E	VAR 90'
									B.C. 8730'
DATE D'EXAMEN 27.07.82	DISTRIBUTEUR TRUONG								
	DOCUMENTATION								
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	VR : AG PS JJJ	GD	ED	FA	Fay Arnold				
	VS : AG PS JJJ	GD	ED	FA	DATE	CATÉGORIE			
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TITRE	Version du film								
	visé le dans la catégorie sous le no								

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À L'USAGE DES MEMBRES DU BUREAU

HEAD HUNTER, THE

GENRE: Gangsters

ANALYSE: Classification à 18 ans après une identification et après avoir consulté la documentation reçue par le Bureau.

N.B.: Voir la photocopie de Variety ci-jointe.

"18 ANS"



Fay Arnold
SIGNATURE (D.B.)

The Head Hunter (HONG KONG-COLOR)

Hong Kong, April 1.

A New Century Film Production (H.K.) Co. Executive Producer, Kung Keung-Kai. Directed by Lau Shing-Hon. Features entire cast. Screenplay, Szeto Cheuk-Hon; assistant director, Ngan Lei; martial arts instructor, Wong Chan; art director, Mak Hin-Yeung; music, Tang Siu-Lam; editor, Pun Hung; special effects, Kwong Wai-Hung. Reviewed at State Theatre, Hong Kong, April 1, 1982. Running time, 90 MINS.

Nguyen Dieh Chow Yun Fat
Vickey Lee Kwan Chi-Lam
Kim Tai Yung Philip Chan
Fanny Dolly Carpio
With Or Chung Heung, Tang Chin, Lee
Kui Lei, Law Kok Wan, Wong Kam Sun,
Flora Cheung
(Cantonese soundtrack with English subtitles)

Lau Shing-Hon, once a member of the young "new" wave Hong Kong directors, who generated favorable critical raves with his serio-erotic "House Of The Lute" in 1979, tries his hand at commercial filmmaking as his second feature and fails to create the same impact.

"The Head Hunter" looks like a carbon, if not a variation, of Ann Hui's Cantonese "Story Of Wu Viet," though Lau's project is said to have been started earlier but ran into production problems which delayed its general release.

It's the same old chestnut about a professional assassin who gets romantically linked with a nosy lady journalist who later gets to know too much. It is, however, forgivable if the film can involve the viewers into believing whatever the principals are meant to be doing. But with all the unclear motives and counter-motives, they are mere stock characters and unappealing cold ones at that.

It tells about a battle-prone Vietnamese soldier who ends up in Hong Kong, via boat, then enters mob society as a moody head-hunter. Lau's picture also stars matinee idol Chow Yun Fat in another typecast hired assassin portrayal.

The scenario is muddled and the general presentation is amateurish, with few sparks of imagination and originality, except the blood baths. Even the lovemaking is forced. Carelessness is evident in many major sequences. Philip Chan's machete knife is without blood after chopping a victim.

The huge supporting cast is more interesting to watch than the principals. Chow repeats himself, while actress Kwan Chi-Lam as a tv newscaster-journalist is plain dreadful.

It is a most disappointing work from a director who showed great promise as a serious filmmaker.

Overall, "The Head Hunter" provides small pleasures as a serious and commercial film, but will likely rake in cash because of the nudity, pretentious lovemaking and the all reliable blend of blood.. violence and murder. —Mel.

Variety (April 21, 1982)