

a Cinema Guild release



Opens April 5 at Metrograph in New York

2018 / 118 min / 1.33:1 / DCP / 5.1 / Color
In Mandarin with English subtitles

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Press Materials:

http://www.cinemaguild.com/theatrical/suburbanbirds_press.html

SYNOPSIS

A striking debut from China's Qiu Sheng, *SUBURBAN BIRDS* is a tantalizing mystery and a bittersweet coming-of-age comedy rolled into one. Hao (Mason Lee) is part of a team of young engineers called in to investigate a series of craters that have opened up on the edge of the city. As he and his team survey the subsiding area, another story is taking place in the same suburban landscape. A younger boy, also named Hao, spends long afternoons playing with friends and making mischief until one-by-one, his playmates start to disappear. As these parallel stories unfold, the connections between them proliferate and grow stranger.

With virtuosic assurance, Qiu employs distinct styles for each of the two narrative strands and unites them with a wry and wistful sense of humor. *SUBURBAN BIRDS* is both a reflection on the slippery nature of memory as well as a comment on China's rapid urbanization. Most of all, the film heralds the arrival of an exciting new voice in Chinese cinema.

CREDITS

Cast

Mason LEE as Xia hao (young man)

Lu HUANG as Yanzi (Swallow)

Zihan GONG as Xia hao (boy)

Jing DENG as Ant

Xiao XIAO as Han Xiao

Xinyu WANG as Chief Jiang

Qi LIU as Liang Shuang

Xuanyi QIAN as Foxy

Shuo XU as Fang Ting

Yihao CHEN as Fatty

Chenghui XU as Old Timer

Zhihao CHEN as Coal

Crew

Director: QIU Sheng

Screenwriter: QIU Sheng

DOP: Ranjun XU

Editors: Qing Song LIAO, Di JIN

Producer: Patrick Mao HUANG, Jingsu CHEN, Zhaowei ZHANG

Production Company: Transcend Pictures, Quasar Films, Cforce Pictures

World sales: Luxbox, Flash Forward Entertainment

North American Distribution: Cinema Guild

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Qiu Sheng was born in Hangzhou, China. He earned a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering in Tsinghua before getting an MFA in film at Hong Kong Baptist University. He aspires to discover new ways of filmmaking. His short films, like *Winterstare* (2014) and *Golfville* (2016), have won awards and acclaim at China Independent Film Festival, Premiere Plans d'Angers and other international festivals. Qiu has taken part in the Golden Horse Film Academy and FIRST International Film Festival Youth Training Camp. *SUBURBAN BIRDS* is his first feature film.

SELECT FESTIVALS & AWARDS

OFFICIAL SELECTION – Locarno Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – BFI London Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – New Directors/New Films (North American Premiere)
BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE – Xining First Films Festival
BEST FEATURE FILM – Novos Cinemas Festival
NETPAC AWARD – International Film Festival & Awards Macao
OFFICIAL SELECTION – San Francisco International Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – CPH:PIX
OFFICIAL SELECTION – Portland International Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – Bordeaux International Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – São Paulo International Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – Film Fest Gent International Film Festival