a Cinema Guild release

SUBURBAN BIRDS

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:
**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