



Australian delegation visiting the Wuhan Peking Opera Theater on November 8

Wuhan Week eyes cooperation of filmmakers



The China Australia International Film Festival (CAIFF): Wuhan Week was held from November 7 to 9. More than one hundred officials, A-list film actors and actresses, directors, and producers from China and Australia, attended the event. The three-day event included a themed concert, an annual symposium for film producers, a forum on Sino-Australian film industry cooperation, a film panorama, a campus film display, and a Wuhan photography activity.

Group photo of Australian guests and staff of Wuhan Peking Opera Theater
Photos by Zou Yan

Multi-dimensional visual feast

CAIFF is the highest-level communication platform in the film industry between Australia and China. It has been held annually since 2014. The event in Wuhan started with the screening of the Australian film *Don't Tell* at the Palace Cinema in Wuhan Tiandi. Jack Thompson, the Australian star who plays the role of a barrister in the film, attended the opening ceremony.

Besides *Don't Tell*, other outstanding films from the 4th CAIFF included *Twenty-two* (China), *The Man Who Defends the Frontier* (China), *The Butterfly Tree* (Australia), *A Month of Sundays* (Australia), *Spin Out* (Australia), and *All for One* (Australia). They were on screen at either the Palace Cinema in Wuhan Tiandi, the Tianhe Joy Land Cinema, or the Hanyang Tianhe Film Cinema.

Renowned stars from the two countries attended a film-themed concert at the Qiantai Grand Theater on November 9. At the concert, the audience enjoyed episodes of the classic Peking Opera, *The Battle of Dingjunshan*, the Han Opera, *Yuzhoufeng*, a didgeridoo performance by Barton Norman, and a movie symphony put on by the Wuhan Philharmonic Orchestra.

Film project worth RMB 5 billion signed

During CAIFF: Wuhan Week, a batch of film cooperation projects were signed, including a framework agreement aiming to foster cooperation between the film industries in China and Australia, a key film project worth RMB 5 billion, and a cooperative agreement between China's leading film companies and Wuhan's local film companies.

Officials and film entrepreneurs from both countries discussed China and Australia's positions and policies on film co-production, partnership incentives, successes and failures, and a need for further cooperation between the two countries' movie industries.

Sino-Australian Filmmakers convene

Representatives from the two countries' top film companies — such as the China Film Group Corporation, the Bona Film Group Limited, H. Brothers, Enlight Media, and Village Roadshow Pictures — took part in the festival's activities in Wuhan.

The festival in Wuhan is supported by both the China's State Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television Administration and the Wuhan municipal government. It is sponsored by the Austway International Group and the Wuhan International Cultural Exchange Association.

The 2017 annual meeting of the China Film Producers' Association was held in Wuhan on November 8. Distinguished film producers from all over the country gathered and discussed film production and the development of China's film industry.



Film posters