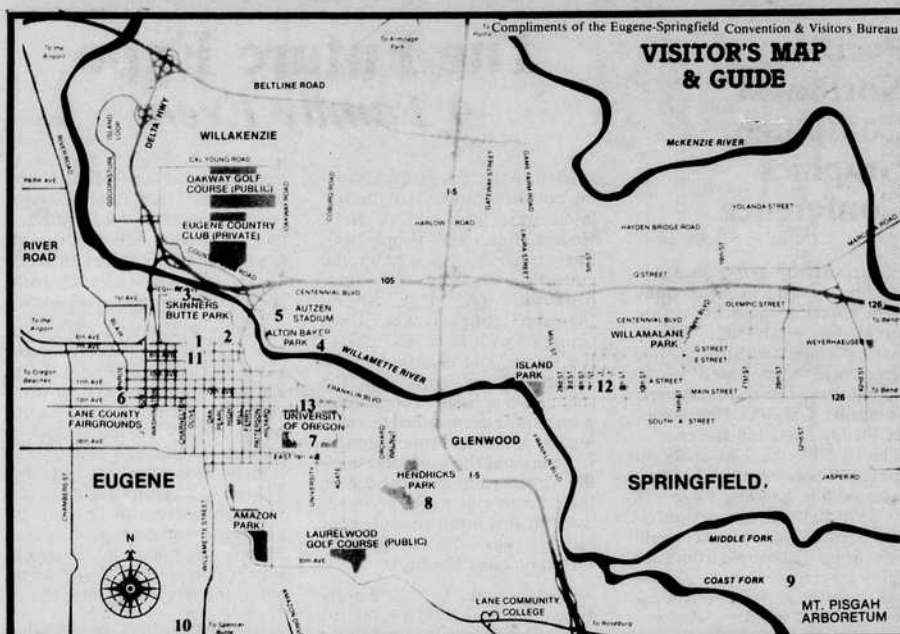


# CINEMA

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## The New Chinese Cinema Comes to Eugene

Starting Oct. 22 the U of O Asian Studies Association will be offering Eugene audiences a rare peek into contemporary mainland Chinese culture. The **China Film Festival** will bring five recent popular feature films from the People's Republic to the Bijou Theater. The films, while representing some of the best cinema to come out of China in over two decades, have never been distributed in the U.S. They are products of the artistically fertile period which has accompanied the relaxing of political restraints and the dramatic opening to the West of the last few years.

Characterized by up-to-date cinematic techniques, and a new subtlety of themes, these films have been enthusiastically received by audiences in China. They will play in Eugene at the Bijou Theater, on five consecutive weekends beginning Oct. 22. Shows will be on Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm. Admission will be \$2.50.

The first film, playing this weekend, is the award-winning **Rickshaw Boy** (1982), based on the famous 1936 novel by Lao She. This scathing yet humorous critique of Chinese society in the '30's describes the disillusion and moral decline of a young rickshaw puller who believes he can pull himself out of poverty through sheer hard work. The Peking Film Studio has taken great care to remain faithful to the book's time and place, and the film recreates beautifully the feeling of 1920's Peking. This film is China's candidate for entry in this year's Academy Awards.

In **Romance on Lushan Mountain** (1980), which will play Oct. 29 and 30, an overseas Chinese girl from America falls in love with the son of a Chinese general while she is visiting China. As it turns out, the girl's father and the boy's had been classmates together at military academy, later to choose opposing sides in the civil war. The two young people must deal with the effect of their fathers' enmity on their relationship.

Playing Nov. 5 and 6 is **The**

**Xian Incident** (1982) which retells in pseudo-documentary style the exciting and somewhat bizarre events leading to the Communist and Nationalist united front to fight the Japanese in 1936. Much research was done in order to accurately portray the historical figures of the time, from Mao Tse-tung to Chiang Kai-shek.

**The In-Laws** (1981), playing Nov. 12 and 13, is a lively and humorous story set in a North China village which was very popular with Chinese audiences, who recognized themselves and their neighbors in the characters portrayed. It provides an insightful look at peasant life and family relationships in modern China.

Rounding out the program is **The Herdsman** (1982) which will play Nov. 19 and 20. It is the best of a number of films to appear in recent years discussing frankly the hardships suffered by many (particularly intellectuals) during the Cultural Revolution. It was filmed in the spectacular grasslands of northwest China.

All the films have English subtitles, with the exception of **The Herdsman**, which is in Chinese only. The plot of **The Herdsman** is simple, however, and in order to encourage American viewers to attend, a synopsis in English will be provided.

The U of O Asian Studies Association is a student group dedicated to furthering the understanding of Asian cultures in the Eugene community. With increasing trade and cultural relations in the Pacific Rim area, it becomes more and more necessary for Oregonians to gain a deeper understanding of our neighbors and trading partners to the west. The media of film is an especially effective way to gain insight into a culture, and anyone with an interest in Asia generally, or China particularly, will be excited by this unique event.

### 1) HULT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AND EUGENE CONFERENCE CENTER

The new Hult Center in downtown Eugene is a work of art in itself, with a unique architectural design and original works of art throughout. Its two concert halls—the 2,500 seat Silva Concert Hall and the smaller Soren Theater—have featured symphonies, opera, theatre, dance, and music from all over the world, as well as from Eugene's own pool of talented artists. Adjacent to the Hult Center are the also new Eugene Conference Center, available for meetings and banquets, and the Hilton Hotel. For ticket information or for a behind-the-scenes tour of the Hult Center, call 687-5000.

### 2) FIFTH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

Eugene's "old town," south of Skinner's Butte Park to Fifth Ave. and roughly between Willamette and High Streets, features many beautifully restored homes and buildings from the late 1800's and early 1900's. There are many interesting shops in this area as well, including the ever popular Fifth Street Public Market which features a fine selection of crafts, food, shops, music, and lots of local color.

### 3) SKINNER'S BUTTE PARK

Situated along the Willamette River and close to downtown, this park features a playground, picnic areas, playfields, and the Owens Rose Garden with over 3000 rose bushes of over 300 varieties. The wooded butte can be climbed on foot, bike, or by car, and from the top, you can see for miles! A bike path runs along the river and connects this park to Valley River Center, Autzen Stadium, the University of Oregon, and Alton Baker Park.

### 4) ALTON BAKER PARK

Also along the Willamette River, this park offers a variety of recreational activities including: Pre's Trail, a 4.2 mile jogging path; a 3 mile waterway ideal for canoeing (watch for blue herons); a new amphitheatre; large playfields; covered picnic

areas; and boating and rafting access to the river. Part of the Willamette River Recreation Corridor, this park is connected by bike paths with Valley River Center, Autzen Stadium, the University, Skinner's Butte Park, and downtown Eugene.

### 5) WISTEC

The Willamette Science and Technology Center is a participatory science center featuring hands-on exhibits and science discovery activities for both children and adults. It is also the home of a planetarium with regularly scheduled weekend shows. A science gift shop offers interesting books, games, and other items. WISTEC is located at 2300 Centennial Blvd., behind Autzen Stadium. Hours are Tues-Sun, noon-5 pm, with planetarium shows on Sat and Sun at 1 and 3 pm.

### 6) LANE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The Historical Museum takes one back to the days of the pioneers who settled Oregon over a century ago, featuring stage coaches, household items, clothing, quilts, and much more. Situated next to the Lane Co. Fairgrounds on West 13th, it's open Wed-Sat, 10-4 pm.

### 7) UNIVERSITY OF OREGON MUSEUM OF ART

Located on the beautiful University of Oregon campus, this museum is famous for its vast collection of Oriental art. It also features art and photography exhibits and a gift shop. See Art Galleries for details on current exhibits. Open Wed-Sun, noon-5 pm. (Closed June 30-Sept. 7.)

### 8) HENDRICKS PARK

Hendricks Park, an 81.5 acre wooded parkland which overlooks Eugene, features an exquisite rhododendron garden with over 3000 rhododendrons and azaleas. The garden reaches its peak in early May, but retains its beauty throughout the year. Surrounding the garden is a wooded park with 300 year old trees, hiking trails, picnic and play areas.

### 9) MT. PISGAH ARBORETUM

Located along the Coast Fork of the Willamette River, at the base of the 1520 foot Mt. Pisgah, the Arboretum features trees and shrubs from around the world. The network of over 4 miles of trails takes you through forests of Douglas fir, stands of incense cedar and centuries-old Oregon oaks, through sunny meadows, past a lily pond, and to a vista point from which the surrounding countryside can be seen. Plant and bird lists, trail maps, or a guide are available for a small donation. The Arboretum is open year round, during daylight hours. Admission is free.

### 10) SPENCER BUTTE

Just a few miles south of Eugene lies the highest vantage point in the area. A fairly gentle trail leads all the way to the top, from which you can see a full 360 degree panorama. The one-way hike takes about an hour, at a leisurely pace, and is well worth the effort, especially on a clear sunny day!

### 11) SATURDAY MARKET

Saturday Market is Eugene's unique outdoor crafts fair featuring fine local crafts, a wonderful variety of food, and entertainment. The Market sets up each Saturday in the Park Blocks at 8th & Oak Streets, and is open from 10 am-5 pm. The colorful booths and displays create a festive atmosphere in downtown Eugene.

### 12) SPRINGFIELD MUSEUM

The Springfield Museum features a permanent local history exhibit entitled Historic Springfield, and two other galleries which feature both local and traveling exhibits of art, crafts, natural history, etc. See Art Galleries for details on current exhibits. Located at 6th and Main in Springfield, hours are Wed-Sat, 11-5 pm.

### 13) MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Located in the Science Complex on the U of O campus. This museum draws from three extensive research collections to create exhibits on Oregon geology, anthropology, and biology. Exhibits change periodically. See Art Galleries for details on current displays. Hours are Tues-Sat, 12-5 pm.

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