

FLASH BULLETIN / PRE-FILMART NEWS

FORTISSIMOFILMS

PRESENTS

RIGOR MORTIS

(NOW IN POST PRODUCTION)
directed by Juno Mak

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Password: **fortissimo2013**

(2013 FILMART EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW, VALID ONLY UNTIL MARCH 21ST)



“Do you still remember the "Geung Si" movies? When I was young, those infamous Chinese zombies brought me much fear and laughter. Now the "Geung Si" movie is back---with more pulse-raising emotion, fear and permeating sorrow than ever. It takes an innovative and creative mind to put a new and human spin on the classic "Geung Si" movie. From Hong Kong's newest cutting edge director, Juno Mak- a kind of grown-up "Geung Si" movie that will strike fear into your heart!”

TOKYO, March 2013, TAKASHI SHIMIZU (Producer of RIGOR MORTIS)



FORTISSIMO FILMS GOES GENRE WITH “RIGOR MORTIS”

Press Release - March 13, 2013: In advance of next weeks’ Hong Kong Filmart, Fortissimo Films announced that it has acquired all international rights outside Hong Kong & China to **RIGOR MORTIS**, the highly anticipated, feature directorial debut of Hong Kong actor/singer/writer Juno Mak (*REVENGE A LOVE STORY*). Now in post-production, the film draws its roots from the very popular Chinese vampire (Geung Si) movies of the 1970’s and 80’s and charts new ground as it delivers up a contemporary story combining cutting edge special effects with a world of thrills, suspense, ghosts, traditional mythology, action and horror. Starring one of the original vampire hunters, action star Chin Siu-ho (*FIST OF LEGEND, TAI-CHI MASTER*), the film was produced by acclaimed Japanese director Takashi Shimizu (*JU-ON, THE GRUDGE*) along with Juno Mak and his Kudos Films.



RIGOR MORTIS reunites many of the surviving, original cast members of the Geung Si genre, evoking nostalgia in an imaginative modern vision. It is something Mak describes as “A Nightmare Poetry” taking inspiration from the now cult films including the *MR VAMPIRE* series of the mid to late 1980’s. The story is set in a modern day housing estate and revolves around Chin Siu-Ho, playing himself as a down and out actor/vampire hunter who moves into a rundown public housing flat only to discover that his apartment is haunted and he is not alone. In order to survive he must do battle with the forces of evil.

The deal was done by Fortissimo Chairman Michael J. Werner and writer-director-producer Juno Mak together with the Distribution and Marketing Manager of Kudos Films, Cindy Lam. The film will receive an international festival launch later this year followed by its Hong Kong theatrical launch.

On making the announcement Werner commented, “**RIGOR MORTIS** has landed itself squarely in one of those cool genres with so much worldwide commercial potential. Juno brings a fresh, young and visionary perspective which will appeal to both young audiences discovering the genre for the first time and older audiences who remember the truly original films of the 70’s and 80’s.”

Juno Mak added, “The Geung Si movies have fascinated me ever since I was a kid. They prey on our fears and our dark side, yet they also have a humanity to them. The film is a return to the genre,

with a fresh approach for a brand new audience and I have no doubt fans of the old movies will love it too. I am thrilled to be working with the Fortissimo team to bring my debut feature **RIGOR MORTIS** to the world.”

Synopsis: In this eerie and chilling, contemporary, action/special effects laden homage to the classic Chinese vampire movies of the 1980’s, writer-director-producer, Juno Mak makes his feature directorial debut. Co-produced by J-Horror icon Takashi Shimizu, and reuniting some of the original cast members of the classic *MR VAMPIRE* series, **RIGOR MORTIS** is set in a creepy and moody Hong Kong public housing tower whose occupants we soon discover, run the gamut from the living to the dead, to the undead, along with ghosts, vampires and zombies.

RIGOR MORTIS stars action movie veteran Chin Siu-ho (Siu-ho) as a former vampire hunting actor who now finds himself reaching the end of the line as a washed-up star, separated from his wife and alienated from his son. Down on his luck and with barely a dollar to his name, he checks into room 2442 in the housing estate, an allegedly haunted flat. His aim is to end his misery by doing himself in, but instead Siu-ho is interrupted by some of the other “occupants” of the building including a Taoist master-exorcist (Anthony Chan), a traumatized housewife with a tragic past (Kara Hui), as well as a seemingly benign elderly woman (Paw Hee-ching) who has an empty coffin conspicuously hanging in the middle of her apartment.

Soon it becomes apparent to Siu-ho that the people around him and the situation are far from normal. Despite his lack of belief in superstition, Siu-ho is soon thrust into the battle of his life as vicious vampires with unsettled business begin to rise from the dead...



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