

Foreign Media Applauds “Monster Hunt 2”

Hong Kong director Raman Hui’s “Monster Hunt 2” was screened in the Berlinale Special Gala at the 68th Berlinale on 29 February. Lead actress Bai Baihe, character Wuba and director Hui had been seen walking the red carpet before the screening took place at the Friedrichstadt Palast. The crowd went wild as fans eagerly asked for autographs and pictures. The festival’s director Dieter Kosslick received the “Monster Hunt 2” ensemble and directed it into the grand theatre for photo sessions.

A sneak preview screening for the media was held at the Berlinale where hundreds of media professionals and film critics were invited. Reviews soon circulated online. “Variety” calls Hui’s sequel “giggly, nutty, enjoyable”.

“Most adorable of all is the film’s star, Wuba.”

“BenBen, a monster who can camouflage himself into invisibility and whose sweet dimples make him look a bit like Woody Harrelson when he smiles.”

And that “Monster Hunt 2” deserves to recruit some new fans, especially “anyone not so enculturated into Disney-esque narrative formula.”

“The Hollywood Reporter” says “the film is a much more powerful visual feast than the original,” and that Hui “has again raised the bar for Chinese animation movies with a blend of CGI and live action [...]”

“Monster Hunt 2” is “technically flawless, courtesy of the work of its largely Hong Kong-based crew. The film mesmerizes the viewers both with its immaculate special effects and also its impressive production design.”

Hui and Bai were invited to share their thoughts on stage following the screening. Watching the film for the first time, Bai was delighted to see so many foreign viewers in the audience. She hoped everyone had liked her performance. She also expressed her gratitude to Hui for taking the audience and her on a magical journey in the film. Hui found himself happily basking in the audience’s laughter, which was the biggest recognition for him. He was glad to get his message across—love and forgiveness.