

Wong Kar Wai named Beijing festival jury president

Hong Kong auteur Wong Kar Wai will preside over the jury at the 8th Beijing International Film Festival, which kicks off on April 15.

The celebrated director said, “The three main criteria for best film are - it must have a good story; it must be original; and the story must be told wonderfully in film language.”

His latest film, martial arts epic *The Grandmaster*, starring Tony Leung Chiu-Wai and Zhang Ziyi, opened the Berlin International Film Festival in 2013. He also served as the festival’s jury president in that year.

Sharing jury duties with Wong are Chinese actor Duan Yihong, US director Rob Cohen (*The Fast And The Furious*), Polish composer Jan AP Kaczmarek, Romanian director Calin Peter Netzer (*Child’s Pose*), Swedish director Ruben Ostlund (*The Square*) and Taiwan actress Shu Qi.

The jury will present 10 Tiantan awards at the festival’s closing ceremony on April 22. The awards include best film, best director as well as several acting and technical prizes.

A total of 15 films are vying for the awards, including Hong Kong director Dante Lam’s *Operation Red Sea*, Samuel Benchetrit’s *Dog* and Saul Dibb’s *Journey’s End*.