

Live-Action “Dynasty Warriors” to Bring Epic Battles onto Big Screens in 2019

Co-produced by China 3D Digital Entertainment Limited, Beijing Lajin Picture, Horgos Lefeng Film and Television, Er Dong Pictures (Beijing), Sun Entertainment Culture and Jiecheng Shiji Cultural Industry Group, “Dynasty Warriors” is a live-action adaptation from the popular fighting video game of the same name. A press conference was held at FILMART 2018 with the presence of its cast and director Roy CHOW, screenwriter Christine TO and producer Stephen SHIU Jr., which all 3 are executive producers of the film. It is scheduled for release in 2019.

At the press conference, director Roy CHOW and screenwriter Christine TO were on stage with the film’s major cast members HAN Geng, Louis KOO, Ray LUI, Justin CHEUNG and LAM Suet. As a fan of the “Dynasty Warriors” fighting game franchise himself, Roy CHOW was very excited about having the chance to adapt the story into a film. But he also saw it as a difficult challenge as he aims at creating a modern, youthful and lively Chinese costume movie. Christine TO also found it challenging for she has to write the story and produce it at the same time, which is like “a battle inside the head”. It was also no easy task to perfectly present the director’s perception of the video game and his interpretation of the historical facts in the production.

Starring in the film as *Guan Yu*, HAN Geng revealed that he was personally on quite many horse-riding scenes for he knows how to ride a horse and loves riding one. He considered this role a challenging one. He was even worried that he bears weak resemblance to *Guan Yu*, therefore, in the several months prior to shooting commenced, he worked out a lot for a stronger physique to match with the *Guan Yu* image.

Louis KOO to play Lu Bu

Also a fan of the “Dynasty Warriors” video game, Louis KOO will be playing the role of *Lu Bu*, who is not only the strongest warrior but also the tallest character in the film. KOO joked saying he is finding ways to grow taller for his role and would resume his normal height afterwards. Playing the role of *Yuan Shao*, Ray LUI said he has enjoyed working with director Roy CHOW for CHOW has very powerful control on set and communicates very well with every cast member, making it a very pleasant filming experience for everyone. Taiwanese actor Tony YANG will be playing the role of *Liu Bei*.

Recreating signature costumes and weapons from the game

The film’s trailer was released at the press conference. “No Chaos, No Heroes” – the Musou action-packed trailer teases a bit about Musou heroes are born with the aura of controlling the warlords and dominating the world in the time of chaos. Shot in New Zealand, the trailer displays a quite different version of ancient Chinese mountains and rivers, yet authentically recreates the warriors’ costumes and weapons from the game and scenes of Musou Attacks” unleashed.

Director Roy CHOW aims to create in the “Dynasty Warriors” film a more youthful, enthused and unusual world of the Three Kingdoms period. He said, “In the film, I choose to deal with stories at the earlier times of the Three Kingdoms period, such as the ‘Yellow Turbans’ and the battle of the three heroes (Liu Bei, Guan Yu and Zhang Fei) against Lu Bu. It was the time when Cao Cao was only 30 years old, and Liu Bei was not even 30. In the world of today that is still a ‘young’ age range. I wish to present to the audience the heroes in their young age, along with their visions and ambitions, to make the story of the Three Kingdoms period more interesting and appealing to younger viewers.” In order to build a world of “Dynasty Warriors” of our era, CHOW led a 590-men crew, spent 9 months to prepare and 5 months to shoot in New Zealand during which they have experienced the 4 seasons. The director also believed that “old” is not an appropriate term to describe costume dramas as they can in fact be modern, trendy and stylish.