



Around China with a Movie Camera

A journey from Beijing to Shanghai, 1900 – 1948

Music by Ruth Chan

Take a trip back to China in the first half of the twentieth century with this BFI DVD presentation of extraordinary, rare and beautiful travelogues, newsreels and home movies. These films – all from the collection preserved in the BFI National Archive – were made by a wealth of British and French filmmakers, from professionals to intrepid tourists, colonial-era expatriates and Christian missionaries. Released on 18 July 2016, the films are accompanied by a new score by composer Ruth Chan.

Exploring 50 years of Chinese history across a diverse range of footage from 1900 – 1948, the collection includes what might be the oldest surviving film to be shot in China which remained unseen for 115 years. Also to be seen is Shanghai's bustling, cosmopolitan Nanjing Road in 1900, the Great World Amusement Park in 1929 and a day at the Shanghai races in 1937. Wander the streets around the Qianmen, Beijing, in 1910. Cruise Hangzhou's picturesque canals in 1925. Visit China's great cities including Hong Kong, Chongqing and Guangzhou and visit remote villages in Hunan and Yunnan provinces.

Special features

- *Modern China* (1910, 8 mins): extraordinary views of life and landscape in Beijing filmed during the last years of China's Qing dynasty
- *Homework and Street Scenes in China* (1907, 7 mins): intimate vignettes of artisans, vagrants and labourers on the streets of the late Qing-dynasty of China
- Illustrated booklet with an essay by curator Edward Anderson; biography and essay about the music by Ruth Chan (www.ruthchan.com)

Product details

RRP: £19.99/ Cat. no. BFIV2089 / Cert E

China, UK / 1900-1948 / Silent with music / 68 mins / DVD9 / Original aspect ratio 1.33:1 / Dolby Digital 2.0 stereo audio, Dolby Digital 5.1 Surround (192kbps)

Screening with live score at BFI Southbank on 21 July, 19:00

On Thursday 21 July at 19:00 *Around China with a Movie Camera* will be screened in NFT3 with a live score performed by Ruth Chan. Tickets are on sale now at www.bfi.org.uk/southbank

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Images are available to download at www.image.net under BFI DVD & Blu-ray

BFI releases are available from all good home entertainment retailers or by mail order from the BFI Shop Tel: 020 7815 1350 or online at www.bfi.org.uk/shop

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