



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 28 July, 3pm

Tickets on sale to the general public Thursday 28 July

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE & SCREEN NSW PRESENT
JACKIE CHAN IN CONVERSATION

Legendary master of Kung Fu comedy **Jackie Chan** breaks from filming his blockbuster *Bleeding Steel* to talk about his life, craft and career at the Sydney Opera House – one of the locations for the sci-fi thriller now in production – on Saturday 6 August.

At today's *Bleeding Steel* start of shoot press conference at the Sydney Opera House, New South Wales Acting Premier Troy Grant announced that the Hollywood star, martial arts expert, and trained Peking Opera performer will be in conversation on the Concert Hall stage for his first public talk in Australia.

Australia is where Chan – born Chan Kong-sang – was given the nickname “Jackie”, while working on a construction site.

He studied Kung Fu, martial arts, singing and acting from age seven to 17 at the intensive China Drama Academy, debuting in the Cantonese movie *Seven Little Valiant Fighters: Big and Little Wong Tin Bar* when he was just eight years old. Throughout his schooling and beyond Chan worked as a stuntman and an extra in Hong Kong films, but when the local industry took a downturn, Chan left for Australia, where his family lived in Canberra.

Fame came when Chan returned to Hong Kong in 1976 to add his now signature humour to the martial arts mix in *New Fist of Fury*. Hollywood took note, and soon *Rumble in the Bronx*, *Rush Hour* and *Shanghai Noon* cemented Chan as a star with global box office appeal.

Chan is an Ambassador for UNICEF/UNAIDS and founded The Jackie Chan Charitable Foundation in 1988, which supports young people in Hong Kong, and in 2004 the Dragon's Heart Foundation, which looks after children and the elderly in remote areas of China. In 2008, he funded and opened the Jackie Chan Science Centre in Canberra as a tribute to his late parents, who lived and worked for 46 years in Canberra, where his father was head chef at the United States Embassy before opening a successful local restaurant.

Bleeding Steel is the largest-budget Chinese production to be shot mainly in Australia since *Mr Nice Guy* was filmed in Melbourne 20 years ago.

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INFORMATION:

What: Jackie Chan In Conversation
Where: Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House
When: Saturday 6 August, 8pm
Duration: 60 minutes
Tickets: From \$34 plus booking fee
More info: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/Jackie_Chan.aspx

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