
Chinese New Year Film Releases Expand Across North America



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LOS ANGELES, : Several major Chinese films are rolling out across North American cinemas during the Chinese New Year period, with two highly anticipated blockbusters premiering on Lunar New Year's Day and additional titles scheduled in the coming weeks.

Scare Out, a contemporary espionage thriller directed by Zhang Yimou, opened in nearly 200

theaters across the United States and Canada. Starring Jackson Yee, Zhu Yilong, and Song Jia, the film follows a Chinese counterintelligence team investigating a leak of classified aviation data. It earned 276 million yuan (about \$39.9 million) on its opening day in mainland China, according to Maoyan.

Another Spring Festival release, *Blades of the Guardians*, debuted in about 220 North American theaters. Directed by legendary action choreographer Yuen Woo-ping and starring Jet Li and Wu Jing, the film centers on a perilous escort mission involving a wanted fugitive bound for ancient Chang'an. It recorded over 156 million yuan (\$22.6 million) on its first day in China.

Additional Chinese hits will follow, including *Pegasus 3*, the latest installment of Han Han's racing comedy franchise starring Shen Teng, set for a Feb. 27 North American release. The earlier two films grossed a combined 5 billion yuan in China.

Panda Plan: The Magical Tribe, starring Jackie Chan, is scheduled for limited North American release on March 13.

All films will screen with English subtitles, targeting major cities with large overseas Chinese populations such as Los Angeles and New York, reflecting growing global demand for Chinese-language cinema.