

Nanjing Sino-Movie Media & Culture Co., Ltd, Beijing Culture,  
Zhejiang Hengdian Film Co., Ltd, and 3C Films Co., Ltd present

Official Selection

**tiff**

Toronto International  
Film Festival 2018

66  
**SSIFF**

Donostia Zinemaldia  
Festival de San Sebastián  
International Film Festival

# BABY



A film by **LIU JIE**

starring **YANG MI, HONG-CHI LEE** and **GUO JINGFEI**

2018 / CHINA / Colour / 96 minutes

**INTERNATIONAL PRESS**

**K2 PUBLICITY**

Kevin McLean

[kevin@k2publicity.com](mailto:kevin@k2publicity.com)

Kara MacLean

[kara@k2publicity.com](mailto:kara@k2publicity.com)

**INTERNATIONAL SALES**

**wild bunch**

Eva Diederix

[ediederix@wildbunch.eu](mailto:ediederix@wildbunch.eu)

Silvia Simonutti

[ssimonutti@wildbunch.eu](mailto:ssimonutti@wildbunch.eu)

Fanny Beauville

[fbeauville@wildbunch.eu](mailto:fbeauville@wildbunch.eu)

Olpha Ben Salah

[obensalah@wildbunch.eu](mailto:obensalah@wildbunch.eu)

Download press kit and stills: <https://www.wildbunch.biz/movie/baby/>

## SYNOPSIS

At the age of 19, starting work as a cleaner in the local children's hospital, Jiang Meng encounters a baby born with the same congenital defects she herself suffered from. Faced with a barrage of high risk operations, the father has decided to refuse treatment and take the baby home with him – condemning his daughter to a certain death. Jiang Meng – who herself faced multiple operations with no certainty of survival, and who was herself abandoned by her parents – cannot accept such a decision. She will stop at nothing to rescue this newborn girl who mirrors so closely who she once was.

## LIU JIE'S BIOGRAPHY

Director Liu Jie was born in Tianjin, China, in 1968. In 1991, he graduated from the Cinematography Department of Beijing Film Academy. He began his career as a cinematographer and production manager, working on films including Wang Xiaoshuai's *Beijing Bicycle* and *Drifters*.

In 2006, his directorial debut, *Courthouse on Horseback* won the Orizzonti Award at the 63rd Venice International Film Festival. Three years later, his sophomore feature, *Judge*, was selected in Orizzonti at the 66th Venice International Film Festival and won the Best Original Screenplay Award at the 47th Golden Horse Film Festival.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

This is a story about an imperfect life - about children who, because of incurable birth defects, are abandoned or given up.

When I finished writing this screenplay, I thought for a long time before choosing the title "Baby" It's a title that might seem contradictory to the story itself, with its connotations of care and protection. How could an abandoned child be seen as a "baby"? Somehow, through the film, I wanted to make this abandoned child a loved "baby"

In the winter of 2009, I saw a village that had fostered more than 1,200 disabled children abandoned by their parents. There were only 600 families in this village. The villagers said that the state gives 600 RMB a month for each fostered child - enough to feed a family of 4 or 5 people. Fostering a child amounts to no more than adding a pair of chopsticks, while sharing the burden of the state. And most importantly, it's about love. The simple and honest villagers are very proud. However, taking care of a disabled child is not as easy as they would have you believe.

During that time, one of my friends had a severely disabled child. The doctor suggested that he had three days to consider whether to give it up. Finally he decided to try and save his child, to help him survive.

I'm very aware that there are many children born in similar circumstances who don't make it, and many children living alone in this world without knowing where their parents are. There are many reasons: Social. Cultural. Personal.

I wanted to make this film to reveal these children, to show something of their lives. I hope the audience will see and feel the life of an abandoned, disabled child, and witness the courage of how she courageously battles the social injustices that arise in the face of her physical disabilities.

I hope that society can think about it, can contemplate the causes for the abandonment to these children. I hope we can examine whether, even if unconsciously, our prejudice or disregard contributes to making their difficult lives more difficult.

I hope that we can believe in equality of humans, and demonstrate greater kindness.

## YANG MI'S BIOGRAPHY

Yang Mi was born on September 12, 1986 in Beijing China and graduated from Beijing Film Academy. In 2011, she starred in *Mysterious Island*, which generated more than 90 million yuan at the box office and became the most successful horror film ever released in China. Mi was then announced as the protagonist in the *Tiny Times* film series, based on Guo Jingming's best-selling novel of the same name. Again, the series was an overwhelming success at the box office. In 2014, she starred in the comedy *The Breakup Guru*, directed by Deng Chao, and the same year was ranked #6 on Forbes China Celebrity 100 list.

In 2017 Yang Mi starred in the sci-fi thriller *Reset*, produced by Jackie Chan, for which she won Best Actress at the 50th WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival, and was ranked third on Forbes China Celebrity 100 list for the year, her highest placing to date.

### Filmography

2012	Love in The Buff
	The Bullet Vanishes
2013	Tiny Times
2014	The Breakup Guru
2017	Brotherhood of Blades II

## HONG-CHI LEE'S BIOGRAPHY

Hong-Chi Lee was born on May 10, 1990 in Taipei, Taiwan, and studied at the Taipei Hwa Kang Arts School and the Chinese Culture University. For his performance in *Thanatos, Drunk* (2015) he won Best New Performer at the Golden Horse Film Festival and Best Actor at Taipei Film Festival. He has two other films selected in Toronto this year: *Cities of Last Things* and *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, which made its world premiere in Un Certain Regard at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival.

### Filmography

2005	Thanatos, Drunk
2016	Love After Time
2017	City of Rock
	Namiya
2018	Long Day's Journey Into Night
	Cities of Last Things

## CAST

YANG MI	JIANG MENG
GUO JINGFEI	MR. XU
HONG CHI LEE	XIAO JUN
WANG YANJUN	DIRECTOR WANG
ZHU SHAOJUN	JIANG MENG'S MOTHER
YAN SURONG	POLICE

## CREW

DIRECTOR	LIU JIE
SCREENPLAY	LIU JIE
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	FLORIAN J.E. ZINKE
EDITOR	WILLIAM CHEUNG
	CHING-SONG LIAO
SOUND	TU DUU CHIH
	WU SHUYAO
MUSIC	GUO SIDA
SET DESIGNER	YUAN FENG
COSTUME DESIGNER	YUAN YUAN
	LIU YUAN

## PRODUCTION CREDITS

PRODUCTION COMPANY	NANJING SINO-MOVIE MEDIA & CULTURE CO., LTD BEIJING CULTURE ZHEJIANG HENGDIAN FILM CO., LTD 3C FILMS CO., LTD
PRODUCERS	SHAN GAO