

## Final Weapon will be screened at NewFilmmakers

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*Final Weapon* is a dramatic short film that takes viewers through the fast-moving odyssey of a Chinese warrior making a fatal choice upon his last battle. This action-packed movie stars famed [Tai Chi Master Ren Guangyi](#) and famous action movie star Michael Woods. The celebrated Rock n' Roll legend [Lou Reed](#) appears in this film which is fueled by his Avant-garde music ([Street Hassle](#), [Finish Line](#), [The Spirit](#), and [Set The Twilight Reeling](#)). This movie is written, directed and produced by senior Tai Chi instructor Stephan Berwick and co-produced and choreographed by Tai Chi Champion [Jose Figueroa](#).

The 15-minute film was screened at 2010 [Action on Film](#) International Film Festival in Pasadena, CA on July 24th, 2010. Master Ren Guangyi is a Tai Chi [martial arts](#) champion and has won numerous titles and awards both in China and in the U.S. Master Ren is an inheritor disciple of the Grandmaster [Chen Xiaowang](#). He was featured on the cover of *Kung Fu Tai Chi Magazine* five times. He was also chosen as the Instructor of the Year by *Inside Kung Fu Magazine* in 2011. This was his first time acting in a motion picture. He won first Runner Up in the category of "Breakout Action Star – Male". The film also won an award of "Best Action Sequence Martial Arts Short". It further got a rave review at the [Coney Island Film Festival](#) in 2010. Last year, it was screened at the [Museum of The Moving Image's Fist and Sword](#) series in New York.

*Final Weapon* offers a poetic expression of universal themes with diverse characters and a textured story that dramatizes the fatality and vitality that comes with truly determining one's own fate. It was written and directed by [Stephan Berwick](#), a Western pioneer of mainland China martial arts, who was an early 'foreign' actor in the action film renaissance of the 1980s, under the famed director, [Yuen Woo-ping](#) and action star [Donnie Yen](#). As an advanced Tai Chi and martial arts practitioner and author, Stephan Berwick explains that *Final Weapon* explores the question of who is more important - those who are given the fatal responsibility to use overwhelming power or those given the task of protecting it.

Many readers asked me where they could see this movie when I first broke the news in 2010. Now *Final Weapon* will make its NYC debut on Tuesday April 10 as one of a small number of action films screening at the [NewFilmmakers' Festival](#).

The *NewFilmmakers* Series began in 1998 by New York University film students to show their work and

promote themselves in the New York film community. But it has grown into international screening series and over the past fourteen years has screened over 600 feature and 2,000 short films. In 2000 they brought the Havana Film Festival to New York and in 2002 they started the highly successful *NewFilmmakers* Los Angeles. Recently they started *NewFilmmakers* Online.

The screening of *Final Weapon* will be at 8pm in the [Anthology Film Archives](#) (32 2nd Ave at 2nd Street, New York, New York). Get some popcorn and enjoy the movie!

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## SUGGESTED LINKS

- **Final Weapon** will be screened at the Museum of the Moving Image
- **IKF's Instructor of the Year: Tai Chi Master Ren Guangyi**
- **Lou Reed: A highly celebrated Tai Chi practitioner and promoter**
- **Legendary Record Producer Tony Visconti and Tai Chi Standing Post**
- **A peek into Master Ren Guangyi's Tai Chi class**



**Violet Li**

Tai Chi Examiner