

SPORTS / RECREATION / COMBAT SPORTS

Final Weapon will be screened at the Museum of the Moving Image

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Stephan Berwick
True Taichi

The **Museum of The Moving Image** in New York City is a relatively new but accredited museum with a mission to advance the public understanding and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. It collects, preserves, and provides access to movie related artifacts. Each year, it hosts over 400 screenings of significant films and exhibits artifacts and artwork of movies. It also offers educational and interpretive programs to students, teachers, and the general public.

Fist and Sword is the Museum's popular series of contemporary and classic martial arts and action films made in the U.S., Asia and other countries. It is curated by movie/TV producer (e.g. Boomerangs, House Party), director (e.g. Cosmic Slop) and actor Warrington Hudlin. The exciting news is that on Feb 6, Mr. Hudlin will interview producer, director, and actor Stephan Berwick and actor Mike Woods on A Black History Movement in Hong Kong Action Films as well as screening and discussion Stephan Berwick's short film Final Weapon (2010).

Stephan Berwick is the founder of **True Taichi**. Stephan practiced Chinese Martial Arts since his childhood and he has promoted Chinese Martial arts via various venues including acting in many of the

Hong Kong Kung Fu movies with famous action director **Woo-Ping Yuen** (e.g. *The Matrix*, *Crouching Tiger*, *Hidden Dragon*, *Charlie's Angels*) and action movie super star *Donnie Yen* (e.g. *Blade II, Ip Man*, *Hero*).

An original disciple of **Master Ren Guangyi** since 1991 and also trained by top Chen family masters, Berwick completed primary research on Chen Tai Chi at Tai Chi Chuan's birthplace, Chenjiagou in 2000. Additionally, he is a writer on Tai Chi and has published over a dozen articles on Tai Chi. Stephan Berwich has been profiled by *Kung Fu Tai Chi* and *Inside Kung Fu* magazines.

Final Weapon is Stephan's first movie as a director illuminating the true art of Tai Chi. Tai Chi champion Shifu Jose Figueroa, another disciple of Master Ren, is also a the co-producer and co-choreographer of the film. Minnesota-based production houses, Restraining Hollywood, Rolen Motion Pictures, and 185 Media also worked on the production of this film. This movie has won kudos from the film industry including first runner-up in the category of "Breakout Action Star – Male" for its star Master Ren Guangyi.

Mike Woods is a co-star in Final Weapon. Like Stephan, Mike was part of Woo-Ping Yuen's Clan. With his extensive martial arts background, he played the archenemy in Yuen's action films and many others.

Berwick and Woods will screen and discuss clips of their film performances with *Fist and Sword film* series curator and Moving Image trustee Warrington Hudlin. They will share their on-camera and behind-the-scenes experiences in the Hong Kong film industry. Berwick will also show *Final Weapon*.

Due to the limited seating, you may want to get your ticket early or get there early.

SUGGESTED LINKS

- > Final Weapon
- > A peek into Master Ren Guangyi's Tai Chi class
- > Lou Reed: A highly celebrated Tai Chi practitioner and promoter



Violet LiTai Chi Examiner