

Portal Pictures and Zhejiang Hengdian Film Productions
in association with IFS Capital Limited and Screen NSW

present

33 POSTCARDS

An Official Australia China Co-production



MEDIA KIT

MEDIA CONTACTS

AUSTRALIAN RELEASE PUBLICIST

Catherine Lavelle

CLPR

T 02 9405 2880

M 0413 88 55 95

E catherine@clpr.com.au

AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND DISTRIBUTOR

John L Simpson

TITAN VIEW Pty Ltd

T 02 8819 6724

F 02 8819 6731

E info@titanview.com

33postcardsthemovie.com

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TITAN VIEW

33POSTCARDS

**Dean Randall has sponsored a young Chinese orphan for many years.
But when, out of the blue, she arrives in Sydney to thank him –
their lives are changed forever.**



'Wishing you were here.'

PORTAL PICTURES and ZHEJIANG HENGDIAN FILM PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

IN ASSOCIATION with IFS CAPITAL LIMITED and SCREEN NSW

A FILM by PAULINE CHAN 33POSTCARDS

STARRING GUY PEARCE, ZHU LIN, CLAUDIA KARVAN, ELAINE JIN, RHYS MULDOON, LINCOLN LEWIS, TERRY SERIO

CASTING FAITH MARTIN PRODUCTION DESIGNER THOMAS CHONG DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY TOBY OLIVER ACS

COMPOSER ANTONY PARTOS EDITOR JANE MORAN STORY MARTIN EDMOND

SCREENPLAY MARTIN EDMOND PAULINE CHAN PHILIP DALKIN

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS YONGAN XU LEE SOON KIE JOHN SIM EDDY CHAN

PRODUCERS ZHIJIANG LIU PENNY CARL-NELSON PAULINE CHAN LESLEY STEVENS

DIRECTOR PAULINE CHAN

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33POSTCARDS

For ten years, Chinese orphan Mei Mei dreams of meeting her Australian sponsor - Dean Randall - and his 'perfect family'.

At 16, when her orphanage travels to Australia to attend the Australian Choir Festival, Mei Mei takes the opportunity to look him up.

What she finds, however, is far from the idyllic life he depicted in his postcards.

Initially mismatched and disconnected - the two begin a journey in search of belonging, family, redemption, love and acceptance.

'Wishing you were here.'

For ten years Chinese orphan Mei Mei (Zhu Lin) has been supported by donations from her Australian sponsor Dean Randall (Guy Pearce) - who sends her postcards that describe his idyllic family life.

At 16, when the orphanage choir tours Australia, Mei Mei discovers the shocking truth - Randall, who she thought was the perfect father figure, is actually a convict in prison for manslaughter.

Randall never imagined he would ever meet Mei Mei and wants nothing to do with her. His donations were just an attempt to dull the guilt of his past crimes. But undeterred by his reluctance and recognizing his loneliness, Mei Mei slips away from the choir every day to visit Randall in prison.

In order to make money to stay in Australia, Mei Mei naively becomes entangled with Randall's crooked associates. To save Mei Mei from his fate, Randall must make an impossible sacrifice.

But by making it - he might not be just saving Mei Mei - he might be saving them both.

33POSTCARDS

FROM THE DIRECTOR

“33Postcards looks at two social misfits whose lives come together despite their different cultures, ages and circumstances. Peeling away the layers of their differences, I hope to explore the similarity of what lies in the depth of the human heart.

“The film has been inspired by real life stories. They provided the shape of the key characters, whose paths were interwoven to explore the main themes of family connections, self-redemption and growth. Through telling their stories, I wanted to show that hopes and dreams can possibly become a reality.

“By Mei Mei turning up and shattering the illusion, both their dreams, and ultimately their lives, are turned upside down. Through their two worlds colliding, I wanted to emphasize the vast cultural and personal disconnection experienced by the two key characters. I was interested in depicting their different perspectives - by creating rapid changes in tones and pace. Is his world imploding because of her? ... or has it been enriched? Is her hardship easing because of connecting with him or becoming increasingly difficult?

“For me, the making of this film has been a personal journey on many levels - not least the wonderful opportunity to work in my mother tongue, the Chinese language, but also to collaborate with the most talented cast and crew from East and West.

“Like Randall’s gift for Mei Mei in the film, I fantasize about living in a spiritual space where cultural and physical boundaries do not exist.”

Pauline Chan, Director

33POSTCARDS

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Portal Pictures Pty Ltd (ABN 38 137 580 440) is the Australian Producer of 33 Postcards. Portal Pictures was incorporated in June 2009 for the purpose of developing and producing feature films for the international marketplace. **33Postcards** is the first feature to be developed. The company enjoys the services of three strong contributors, Penny Carl-Nelson, Pauline Chan and Lesley Stevens, each of whom brings a different expertise and experience to the mix.

Zhejiang Hengdian Film Production Co Ltd

The Hengdian Group's *Film and Entertainment* business was established in 1996. It is now the biggest location film base in the world, and one of the fastest growing entertainment groups in China, owning cinema chains, theme parks, sound stages, extensive film locations, comprehensive production servicing, training centres, film development and financing.

Hengdian World Studios is home to the production of some 50 films/TV dramas every year.

33POSTCARDS

KEY CAST

GUY PEARCE	Dean Randall
ZHU LIN	Mei-Mei
CLAUDIA KARVAN	Barbara
ELAINE JIN	Miss Chen
LINCOLN LEWIS	Carl
RHYS MULDOON	Gary
TERRY SERIO	Fletch
MATT NABLE	Tommy
KAIN O'KEEFE	Dave
CLAIRE SCOTT	Ruby
JOHN ATKINSON	Chalmers
CLAYTON WATSON	Brian

33POSTCARDS

KEY CREW

DIRECTOR	Pauline Chan
PRODUCERS	Pauline Chan Penny Carl-Nelson Lesley Stevens Zhijiang Liu
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS	Yongan Xu Lee Soon Kie John Sim Eddy Chan Ka Do
STORY	Martin Edmond
SCREENPLAY	Martin Edmond Pauline Chan Philip Dalkin
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Toby Oliver ACS
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Thomas Chong
EDITOR	Jane Moran
CASTING DIRECTOR	Faith Martin
COMPOSER	Antony Partos
MUSICAL SUPERVISOR	Andrew Kotatko
LINE PRODUCERS	Dennis Kiely He Yuehua Philip Chan

33 POSTCARDS

GUY PEARCE



Born in England, Guy Pearce moved with his family to Australia when he was three years old. His passion for the arts began at an early age in youth theatre and since his breakthrough role in the serial **Neighbours**, Guy has gone on to become one of Australia's finest actors. He appeared on screen recently, in a memorable role opposite Colin Firth in the Oscar winning film **The King's Speech**.

With an impressive list of local and international credits, Guy's roles showcase his diverse talent and characterization - from a drag queen in the iconic Australian film **The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert**, magician Harry Houdini in 2007's **Death Defying Acts**, pop artist Andy Warhol in 2006's **Factory Girl** and last year as the wealthy playboy Monty in the HBO post depression drama **Mildred Pierce** opposite Kate Winslet, for which he was nominated for a 2011 Emmy Award.

Guy has appeared in US hits including **The Hurt Locker**, **LA Confidential**, **Rules of Engagement**, **Memento** and **The Count of Monte Cristo**. His upcoming releases will include the much anticipated Ridley Scott film **Prometheus**, and his second collaboration with film maker John Hillcoat, **The Wettest Country in the World**.

In Australia, his credits include critically lauded film **The Proposition** and **Animal Kingdom** which screened in Official Competition at Sundance and won the Grand Jury Prize. Guy also earned an Australian Film Institute Nomination for his performance as *Best Supporting Actor* for **Animal Kingdom**.

In 2009, Guy made a return to the Australian stage, performing in the Melbourne Theatre Company's production of **Poor Boy**. His other notable performance include **Sweet Bird of Youth** for the MTC and **Face to Face** for Playbox Theatre.

His passion for music, and friendships with a number of musicians, have seen him appear in multiple film clips including the band Silverchair's music video for "Across the Night" and in Razorlight's video for "Before I Fall to Pieces." He recorded the soundtrack for the film *A Slipping Down Life*, singing and playing guitar on cover versions of songs by Ron Sexsmith, Vic Chesnutt, and Robyn Hitchcock.

is DEAN RANDALL

33 POSTCARDS

CLAUDIA KARVAN



is BARBARA

Claudia Karvan is one of Australia's most respected and acclaimed film and television actors.

This year Claudia completed the second series of Southern Star's **Spirited** of which she is co-creator, producer and lead, which premiered on Foxtel's W channel in July. The second series of **Spirited** will premiere on FOXTEL's W Channel in July.

Her feature film credits include **Daybreakers** opposite Ethan Hawke and Willem Dafoe, Gillian Armstrong's **High Tide** with Judy Davis, Phillip Noyce's **Echoes of Paradise**, **The Heartbreak Kid** for which she was awarded *Best Actress by the Film Critics Circle*, **Paperback Hero** with Hugh Jackman and **The Long Weekend** opposite Jim Caviezel.

Claudia has starred in many Australian television series and miniseries including **The Secret Life of Us**, **Farscape**, **My Brother Jack**, **Small Claims** and the highly popular FOXTEL/Southern Star series, **Love My Way**, for which she is creator, producer and star. **Love My Way** has won numerous awards including the *TV Week Silver Logie Award for Most Outstanding Drama Series* and the *Australian Film Institute (AFI) Award for Best Television Drama Series* three years in a row. For her role as Frankie in **Love My Way**, Claudia is also a two time winner of both the *TV Week Silver Logie Award for Most Outstanding Actress* and the *AFI Award for Best Lead Actress in a Drama Series*.

In 2009, Claudia also starred in the SBS telemovie, **Saved**, directed by Tony Ayres, which earned her the *2010 TV Week Silver Logie Award for Most Outstanding Actress*.

33POSTCARDS

ZHU LIN



Recipient of a 2011 **Rising Star Award** at the **Shanghai International Film Festival**, Zhu Lin is a young up and coming Chinese actress whose talent led her to land her first role in the feature film **33POSTCARDS**.

Her co-actors Guy Pearce and Claudia Karvan, have praised her energy on set and her dedication to the art.

Her honesty and natural presence on screen make her an actress to watch out for.

is MEI MEI

LINCOLN LEWIS



Recipient of the inaugural Male Star of Tomorrow Award at the 2011 Australian International Movie Convention, Lincoln Lewis is one of Australia's rising new stars.

Commencing his acting career at the age of 13 Lincoln has had guest appearances on the television shows **H2O: Just Add Water**, **Mortified**, and **Aquamarine**. In 2006, Lincoln landed the lead role as Aaron on the film **Voodoo Lagoon** alongside John Noble (Lord of the Rings). In 2007 he joined the cast of **Home and Away**, playing the character Geoff Campbell and later won the **Most Popular New Male Talent Logie** at the 2008 TV Week Logie Awards.

In 2009 Lincoln landed the principal role of, Kevin Holmes, on the Australian film and epic story **Tomorrow when the War Began** which was released worldwide on 2 September 2010.

As well as 33POSTCARDS, Lincoln's 2010 projects included a major guest role on **Rescue Special Ops** opposite Peter Phelps and a support lead in the feature film **Bait 3D** with Xavier Samuel and Julian McMahon.

In 2011 Lincoln is portraying character of *Dylan* on FOXTEL's new series **SLiDE** and most recently he can be seen in the role of *Bruce Higgs* in Screentime's **Underbelly: Razor** currently screening on the Nine Network.

33 POSTCARDS

RHYS MULDOON



Rhys Muldoon is an Australian actor, writer and director who has worked extensively in film, television, theatre and radio.

Rhys Muldoon has starred in numerous television roles including **Valentine's Day**, **Bastard Boys**, **Play School** and the high rating **Dr Bogle and Mrs Chandler**, the BAFTA nominated **Lockie Leonard** based on the books by Australian writer Tim Winton, **Blackjack** with Colin Friels, the multiple AFI award winning **Grass Roots** as the scheming general manager, Greg Dominelli, **Secret Life of Us**, **Big Sky**, and **The Genie From Down Under**.

In film, Muldoon has appeared in the Oscar nominated film **The Saviour**, **Ladykiller**, **Gristle**, **Mumbo Jumbo**, **Danny Deckchair**, **The Crop**, **Second Chance**, **The Extra**, the hit of the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival, **Bitter and Twisted** and Stephen Soderbergh's **Secret Film Project**.

is GARY

TERRY SERIO



Terry Serio is one of Australia's most accomplished and versatile performers. His film roles include the break-out lead in 1982s **Running on Empty**, **He Died With a Felafel In His Hand** and **Dirty Deeds**.

Terry has appeared in over 50 of Australia's most well known television productions including **Shout! The Story of Johnny O'Keefe** (receiving an *AFI Award nomination for Best Actor* for his role as Johnny), **Police Rescue**, **Blue Heelers**, **Water Rats**, **Wildside**, **Stingers**, **Blackjack**, **Stupid Stupid Man** and the telemovie **A Model Daughter: The Killing of Caroline Byrne**.

Terry's theatre accomplishments cross comedy, drama and musical genres in independent theatre, large scale productions and national and international touring productions. Credits include **Rasputin**, **Hair**, **The Threepenny Opera**, **Blasted**, **4.48 Psychosis**, **Summer Rain**, **Concussion** and **Under Ice**. Most recently Terry appeared in the acclaimed **Way To Heaven** at the Griffin Theatre. Terry played the roles of Bob Hawke and John Howard in the runaway success of 2006-08, **Keating!** which earned him the *2007 Helpmann Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Musical*.

is FLETCH

33 POSTCARDS

ELAINE JIN



is Miss CHEN

Elaine Jin is a renowned actress having started her career in 1973.

She has been nominated five times in the Hong Kong Film Awards and won two for her supporting roles in **Love Unto Waste** and **People's Hero**.

In 1994, Jin earned her first *Golden Horse Film Award* in the supporting category for her performance in Edward Yang's **A Confucian Confusion**.

MATT NABLE



is TOMMY

It would seem that Matt Nable has literally just burst on to the scene as an extremely talented actor and screenwriter but in fact he has been writing for over ten years on different projects, freelancing and developing **The Final Winter**, his first screenplay which received critical acclaim at major film festivals in Australia. The film has been distributed by Paramount Pictures, earning him a nomination as *Best Australian New Comer in the 2008 Movie Extra FilmInk Awards*.

He has recently completed working on **The Killer Elite**, a feature directed by Gary McKendry shot in Australia and Wales. Set for release in 2011, Matt worked alongside a star studded cast including Jason Statham, Clive Owen, Robert De Niro and Yvonne Strahovski.

Matt has also played the lead role of *Melville Atkinson* in the exciting Spike TV two hour US MOW called **S.I.S.** written and directed by John Herzfeld. His portrayal of 'Travis' in **East West 101 Season 3** was Matt's first Australian small screen production.

His debut novel *We Don't Live Here Anymore* was released in 2009, with his second book *Faces In The Clouds* was released this year.

33 POSTCARDS

KAIN O'KEEFE



Kain is an exciting young screen actor who has appeared in many popular Australian TV shows.

Kain has had regular roles in **Home and Away**, **Fireflies**, **Blue Water High**, **The Lost Treasure of Fiji** and **Out of the Blue**. Kain has also appeared in guest roles on **All Saints**, **McLeod's Daughters**, **Underbelly: The Golden Mile** and most recently **Packed to the Rafters**.

Kain's feature film credits include **Swimming Upstream**, **I Wish I were Stephanie V** and **The 7th Hunt**. Kain has also directed two music videos for Sydney band Rapids.

is DAVE

JOHN ATKINSON



John graduated from WAAPA in 1991 and has since enjoyed performing in many original Australian works for the stage.

Highlights include working with James Caan in **Bloodcrime**, with Judy Davis and Deborah Messing in **The Starter Wife** and choreographing the fight scenes in **Romeo and Juliet** whilst playing the role of Tybalt.

John has appeared in a large number of Australian TV dramas as a regular or guest performer and is a successful voice-over artist.

is CHALMERS

33 POSTCARDS

PAULINE CHAN

DIRECTOR & CO-PRODUCER



Award winning director Pauline Chan is known for her evocative visual style, intense character driven journeys and her ability to cast actors on the brink of stardom.

She has worked as a film producer, director and writer in Hong Kong, Australia and the USA.

After an early career as an actor in Hong Kong and Australia, Pauline switched to behind the lens in the 1980s, producing and directing community documentaries in Sydney.

Graduating from the Australian Film, Television and Radio School in 1991, Pauline has worked as a film maker in Australia and throughout Asia.

Reviewed as “*a premier new Australian filmmaker*” by **Time Magazine Asia**, Pauline’s work has been selected for official screenings in over 40 film festivals, including Cannes, New York, Toronto, London, Berlin, Edinburgh, and Tokyo, winning a number of prestigious awards.

Pauline’s directing credits include **Tales of Love and Tears, Journey into Mongolia, Little White Lies, Traps, Dusty Hearts, The Space Between the Door and the Floor** and **Hang Up**.

Pauline’s producing credits include **Dragon Pearl, UltraViolet, Belly of the Beast** and the blockbuster **Rush Hour 2**.

33 POSTCARDS

PENNY CARL-NELSON

PRODUCER

Penny founded Money Penny Services in 1975 and created a unique financial management system for the Australian film industry. She has had extensive experience in business and management in the entertainment industry winning the **Australian/Veuve Clicquot Business Woman of the Year Award in 1982.**

Stints at the Australian Film Television and Radio School and numerous consultancies in related financial areas have continued to expand her already broad film industry experience.

LESLEY STEVENS

PRODUCER

Lesley is a founding director of the Sydney based Prism Film Productions, a highly regarded performer in drama and documentary for the independent marketplace. She has been a reporter, writer, director, producer, editor and communications consultant winning numerous awards for her original work. Her recent focus has been on storytelling online.

ZHIJIANG LIU

PRODUCER

President and General Manager of the leading Chinese production and distribution company, Zhejiang Hengdian Film Production Co Ltd.

MARTIN EDMOND

WRITER

With a BA in Anthropology and English from Auckland University, in 1974 and an MA with First Class Honours in English Language & Literature from the Victoria University of Wellington, 1976, Martin joined the Red Mole Theatre Troupe in 1977 and spent five years touring and working as an actor, writer, stage manager and lighting designer.

In 1981 he moved to Australia to work in the film industry, on screenplays and to pursue his other literary ambitions.

In 2004 he was appointed Literary Fellow at the University of Auckland. Films include, **Earth Angel, Terra Nova, Philosophy, The Footstep Man** and **Illustrious Energy.**

33POSTCARDS

TOBY OLIVER ACS

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Toby Oliver ACS is a freelance director of photography based in Sydney. His extensive and award-winning body of work spans acclaimed art-house and mainstream feature films and network TV drama series through to commercials, documentary, music videos and short films.

A graduate of Melbourne's renowned Swinburne Film School in 1988, Toby has gone on to create some of Australia's most remarkable film images, from the 'beautifully lit' gritty black and white of his first feature **Everynight Everynight** to the box-office hit and the AFI winner **Looking For Alibrandi** starring Anthony LaPaglia and Greta Scacchi and the 'painterly approach' of **Tom White** starring Colin Friels, winner of the coveted *ACS Golden Tripod Award*.

His work on short films and features has been seen at major festivals around the world, from Venice to Sundance, and Melbourne to Toronto. Most recently Toby was AFI nominated again for the acclaimed epic World War 1 drama **Beneath Hill 60** directed by Jeremy Sims, and was an AFI Winner for the dramatised documentary **Miracle In the Storm** for ABC TV. The quirky documentary **Cane Toads – The Conquest** directed by Mark Lewis and shot in digital 3D is set for release in 2011.

Toby's work in television includes the acclaimed ABC series **Love Is A Four Letter Word** through to recent successes such as AFI and Logie Awards winner **Lockie Leonard** (Nine Network) and the upcoming Southern Star production **Spirited** (Series 2) currently in production for producers Claudia Karvan and John Edwards.

Highly regarded at home and four times nominated for the prestigious *AFI Award for Best Cinematography* along with many Gold and Silver ACS Awards, Toby has in recent years increased his international profile with feature film work in China, and major brand TVC shoots across Asia.

Toby's passion is creating images that tell great stories, bringing his unique kind of artistry, experience and understanding to productions large and small.

33 POSTCARDS

FAITH MARTIN

CASTING DIRECTOR

Faith Martin began her professional career as a Theatrical Agent. A number of careers that have gone on to achieve great success and recognition were developed and guided through her career management, including **Mel Gibson, Geoffrey Rush, Colin Friels, Michael Siberry and Wendy Hughes**, to mention a few. Since 1982 Faith has specialised as a Casting Director. She has cast Oscar winner **Russell Crowe, Lisa McCune** (5 time TV Week Logie Award winner), **Martin Sachs** (5 time TV Week Logie Award winner).

Faith has cast more than twenty features. Several, including **Strictly Ballroom** and **The Sum Of Us**, are now recognised as benchmarks in the evolution of Australian film. During the last 2 to 3 years Faith has been engaged by a large number of US casting companies to consult on their projects. Strong creative relationships have now been founded with ABC, HBO, Fox, Disney, Universal and many others.

ANTONY PARTOS

COMPOSER

Antony Partos is an internationally awarded composer who specialises in blending acoustic and electronic elements in his scores. He is also a founding director of the music and sound design company Supersonic.

His credits include the feature films **Crush, Walking On Water, Soft Fruit, The Monkey's Mask, Garage Days, The Home Song Stories** and **Unfinished Sky**. (**The Home Song Stories** and **Unfinished Sky** both won *AFI Awards consecutively for Best Music For A Feature Film*). His most recent scores were for the feature film **Disgrace**, starring John Malkovich and **Accidents Happen**, starring Geena Davis.

ANDREW KOTATKO

MUSICAL SUPERVISOR

Andrew Kotatko is one of Australia's leading creative music supervisors for film, television and advertising. His film work includes Jane Campion's **The Portrait of a Lady** and **Holy Smoke**, Rowan Woods' **Little Fish** and Daniel Nettheim's forthcoming **The Hunter**.

Andrew also wrote and directed the multi-award winning short film **Everything Goes** starring Hugo Weaving and Abbie Cornish.