

Beat: Entertainment

## VENICE DAYS AND BRIDGING THE DRAGON FOR THE CHINA FILM FORUM

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**USPA NEWS** - On 2 September, at the Excelsior Hotel on the Lido, Venice Days will be held the third edition of the China Film Forum at Venice Days. What makes the third edition of China Film Forum so special is that it is the fruit of a partnership between Venice Days & international network Bridging the Dragon

VENICE DAYS AND BRIDGING THE DRAGON FOR THE CHINA FILM FORUM-----

On 2 September, at the Excelsior Hotel on the Lido, Venice Days will be held the third edition of the China Film Forum at Venice Days. What makes the third edition of the China Film Forum so special is that it is the fruit of a partnership between Venice Days and international network Bridging the Dragon, together with Doc.it. The event is scheduled to take place at the Venice Film Festival on 2 September, and will centre around themes, stories and creativity linking Europe and China.-----

Every year, Venice Days reserves a special part of its programme for exploring the dramatically changing film and audiovisual industry in China in relation to European and Italian creativity. The China Film Forum has, thanks to this partnership, become a key event for developing ideas and forms of expression shared by cultures as different as they are in favour of increasingly close cooperation. Bridging the Dragon is an international organisation set up to bring together European and Chinese authors, by organising events along with meetings and exchanges at the biggest international film festivals, but first and foremost by creating opportunities for support and advice in the development of new projects. This year Bridging the Dragon, which already works in partnership with important initiatives such as the European Film Market at the Berlin Film Festival and the Cannes Film Market, has chosen Venice Days as the platform for a new European chapter in its work. Doc.it meanwhile continues its partnership with Venice Days by bringing the reality of cultural exchanges and co-production projects already underway with China to Venice, in cooperation with the Sino-Italian Campus Tongji University and the GZDoc International Documentary Film Festival & Market. It does so as part of a special project focusing on the real-life film currently characterising one of the most dynamic and successful forms of film production in both Italy and China.-----

1 September will herald the arrival in Venice of the participants of the second round of development and co-production projects launched with the support of Bridging the Dragon, following two days of workshops hosted in Italy thanks to the support of the Trentino Film Commission. The participants will enjoy an evening of 'matchmaking' at the Villa degli Autori to celebrate this year's edition of the China Film Forum.

On 2 September, at the Excelsior Hotel on the Lido, and in agreement with other institutions, private sponsors and media partners, the third edition of the China Film Forum at Venice Days will be held, and will be attended by Italian and Chinese authors of the likes of screenwriter Lu Wei (Farewell My Concubine, Tuya's Marriage), Shu Huan (the creator of Lost in Thailand, Lost in Hong Kong, two of the biggest box office champions in the history of Chinese cinema) and screenwriter Yuan Yuan (Goodbye Mr Tumor, the Chinese nominee for the 2015 Oscars and big success story of the year). On the same day, Bridging the Dragon will run a professional training workshop for Italian producers and authors on the current context, potential for and ways of engaging in co-production with China, which will also open to documentary producers. Finally, at this year's China Film Forum, Venice Days will announce its twinning with the Silk Road International Film Festival, in an exemplary embrace between the great traditions of two Silk Road cultures. The complete programme for the China Film Forum, which highlights the special attention paid by the Italian and European audiovisual industries to the transformations and internationalisation of Chinese cinema, along with the content of interviews and news on partners and sponsors, will be announced on 26 July at the press conference presenting the XIII edition of Venice Days (which will be held from 31 August to 10 September 2016). As in the past editions of the China Film Forum the organizing team of the event includes In Thinker Studio and Youthminds usually working with some of the major public and private players of the Chinese film industry.

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