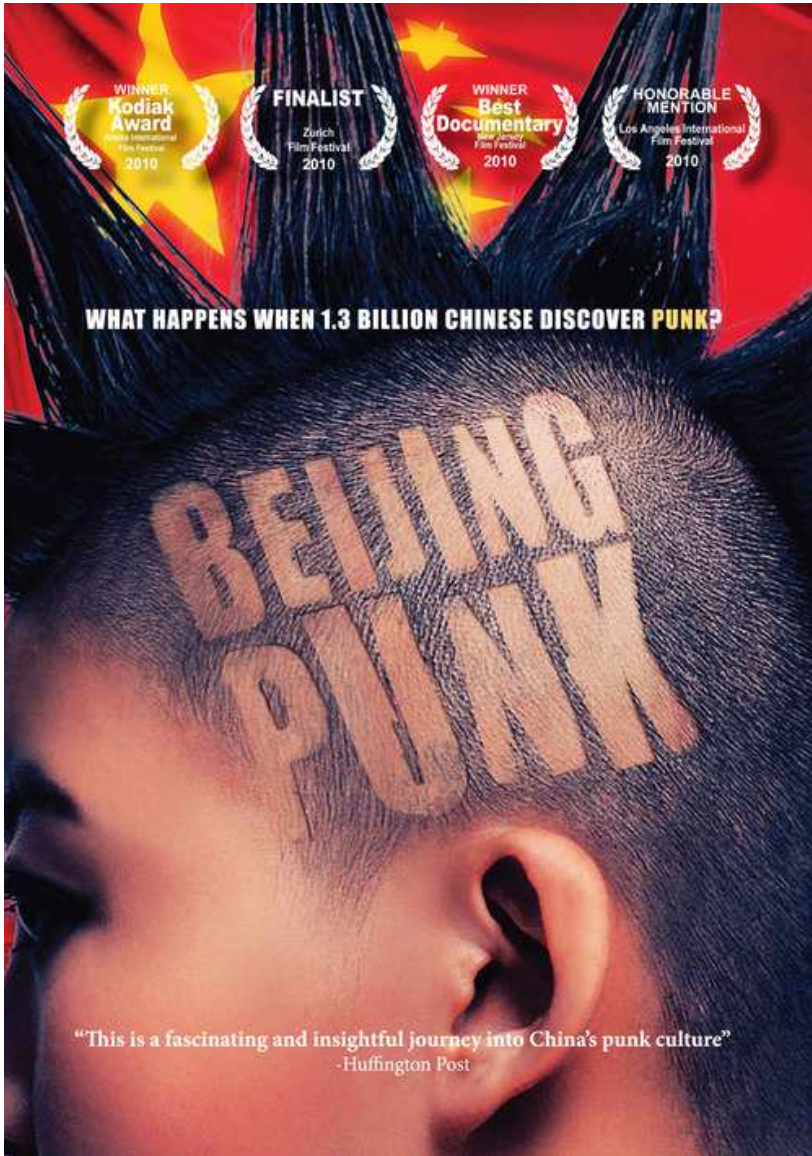


The Impaler Speaks

Beijing Punk



Beijing Punk

director: Shaun M. Jefford (Seminal Films/MVD Visual)

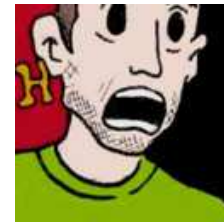
In 2008, the Summer Olympics were held in China, making it easier for foreigners – and foreign journalists with cameras and other recording devices – to get visas for entry into the country. Shaun Jefford, a young filmmaker and die-hard fan of punk rock, took advantage of this situation and traveled to Beijing to investigate the city's thriving underground punk scene. The result is 'Beijing Punk', a top-shelf documentary that has won awards at the Cambridge Film Festival, the Alaska International Film Festival, and the New Jersey Film Festival, along with an Honorable Mention at the Los Angeles International Film Festival and a spot as a Finalist at the venerable Zurich Film Festival. After a couple of years on the festival circuit, the film is now available on DVD thanks to the good folks at MVD Visual, opening 'Beijing Punk' up to a whole new audience – including me. Over the course of the film, Jefford introduces us to a slew of Chinese punks and a few non-Chinese ex-pats like Nevin Domer and Brian Hardgroove who make up the backbone of the punk scene in Beijing through venues like D-22 – the scene – and labels like Maybe Mars. The primary acts include Hedgehog, Misandao, Demerit, P.K. 14, and The

The Impaler Sp... ✕

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The Impaler Speaks... supporting local music worldwide, from Austin TX to the United Kingdom and everywhere else. The Impaler has been a member of the Mass Movement creative team since it was a cut-n-paste fanzine many years ago. This is a way to add some depth to the coverage I am able to provide in MM, and so much more.... Support indie music. Support indie film. Support indie life.

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@gwgferris @YouTube Cool! Except dUg's Twitter address is now @dUgpinnick_ – that needs updating, haha!
 @RockArmyRecords

I liked a @YouTube video from

filmmaker and his subjects. Demerit – who seem to be closest in sound, style, and fashion to US bands like Anti-Flag and The Casualties – provide the most human moments as well as the most focused punk attack musically. The members of Demerit live in abject poverty and present an unmovable wall of defense when questioned on their assertions that they wouldn't have it any other way. I suppose the only response to these scenes, and to the attitudes that are represented therein, is to say, 'that's punk rock'. Heddehog – who call to mind Austin-based noisemongers Ringo Deathstarr to my ears – are responsible for some of the most heart-warming and heart-wrenching moments. When discussing the fact that their popularity in China stems largely from the presence of their definitely bad-ass female drummer, the other (male) members of the band display the type of respect and reverence for their bandmate that one seldom even sees Westerners display for siblings in this jaded age. The drummer's response to this praise is the icing on the cake, as she states in no uncertain terms that no one would care about a good drummer – of any sex – unless she or he was playing in a fantastic band. These displays of comradery make it an even tougher pill to swallow when it is revealed that the Chinese government denied the band's visa applications to accept a US tour not long after filming commenced. Misandao – who are, and I promise that you are reading this correctly, Chinese Skinheads with a sound that combines elements of Cock Sparrer, Angelic Upstarts, and (at least to my ears) Slapshot – provide the comic relief. Jefford spends a considerable amount of time with these guys, and the only times they're not drinking beer, liquor, and/or codeine syrup – or smoking pot – they're dissecting the Skinhead lifestyle and life under the Chinese system of government in an unintentionally hilarious fashion. 'Beijing Punk' is fast-paced and fun, with a fantastic selection of music from the cream of the Chinese punk scene being heard the majority of the time, and an engaging visual style that maintains a steady focus on the subjects at hand at all times. Where are else are you going to find a documentary that is as much a political commentary as it is a glimpse behind the curtain of an underground music scene, and one that is as entertaining as a night out with a great group of friends at the same time? Most likely, the answer to that question is 'nowhere else', so my recommendation to everyone reading this is to take the time to check out 'Beijing Punk'. You won't regret it. **The Impaler** [@impalerspeaks](#)

www.beijingpunk.com + www.mvdb2b.com

Posted 2 weeks ago

2 notes

Tagged: [Beijing Punk](#), [punk](#), [China](#), [film](#), [movie](#), [DVD](#), [Shaun M. Jefford](#), [Seminal Films](#), [MVD Visual](#), [mvd](#), [The Impaler Speaks](#), [The Impaler](#), [@impalerspeaks](#), [mass movement](#), [brian hardgroove](#), [nevin domer](#), [Heddehog](#), [Misandao](#), [Demerit](#), [PK 14](#), [The Gar](#), [Chinese](#), [music](#), [skinhead](#), [cock sparrer](#), [angelic upstarts](#), [slapshot](#), [scene](#), [filmmaking](#), [documentary](#).

 [paulzag](#) reblogged this from [theimpalerspeaks](#) and added:

A good review. Insightful analysis of the movie matched with deep knowledge of the history and currency of punk.

 [merrilymusing](#) reblogged this from [theimpalerspeaks](#)

 [theimpalerspeaks](#) posted this

@dUgpinnick_
<http://t.co/XsSH8I2isE> dUg Pinnick
 'That Great Big Thing' official video
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Cutting-edge and classic all at once. Amazing! (@YouTube
<http://t.co/XsSH8I2isE>)

Bowling For Soup (@bfsrocks): New Album! update: look who stopped by sing some back vocals
<http://t.co/Wh5f8naGry>
 @PledgeMusic #pop

@gwgferris @dave_bullis
 @indywoodfilms @vampires2com
 Oh, I'll be back for dessert. No worries there.

RT @DelaneyGibson: Agreed!
 @indywoodFILMS: Everyone pls give a follow to @impalerspeaks quite possibly one of the most supportive of all tw...

RT @GorillaProducer: Gorilla Filmmaker ▶ top stories via @mikeglancey @impalerspeaks @Wuxia @DSLR_Girl ▶
<http://t.co/WLmFKnEal> #indiefilm

@DelaneyGibson @indywoodFILMS
 This rules. I had no idea.

@Dave_Bullis @indywoodFILMS
 @gwgferris @Vampires2com Too fun! I don't know from G+, sadly... and I've got to (gasp!) leave the PC for a bit!

@indywoodFILMS @DelaneyGibson
 Was this a @wheatus related event, or some sort of #zombie roundup?!

RT @LikeMeFilm: @impalerspeaks YOU ROCK!!!

RT @LikeMeFilm: We're up for @indiewire PROJECT OF THE MONTH! Please vote for LIKE ME!
<http://t.co/4Z99pvihCU>
 @FilmPulseNet @impalerspeaks ...

@indywoodFILMS @gwgferris @Vampires2com @Dave_Bullis I didn't get invited to Philly though. Looks like I'm gonna have to CRASH that party!

@DelaneyGibson @indywoodFILMS
 You kids are awesome. I chose wisely in supporting both of your #crowdfunding efforts, yeah?! :)

Manchester heavy rockers Blastronaut are set to release debut album! <http://t.co/jQOviHKlWY>
 @pledgemusic @blastronautUK
 #indie #music #rock

Don't blame me... I voted for LIKE ME. <http://t.co/ORKNRDsmvE>
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