

MONGOL

SLAVE.WARRIOR.EMPEROR.

a Sergei Bodrov film

The epic 12th Century saga of a young boy who is destined to become Ghengis Khan, the greatest conqueror of all time...



About The Director – Sergei Bodrov

Having grown up in Russia, which was one of the many lands conquered by the Mongols, Sergei Bodrov was never satisfied with the portrayal of Ghengis Khan as a monster and a tyrant. Compelled to research the truth, Bodrov immersed himself in the history of the Mongols, eventually becoming inspired to piece together his collective research into the gripping and fact-based story of the extraordinary life of the great conqueror.

As a screenwriter, director and producer, Sergei Bodrov is one of Russia's most well known filmmakers. By the time he co-directed "Sweet Juice Inside Grass" in 1984, he had written the screenplays for over 30 films. When the Russian borders became less restrictive, Bodrov traveled to the U.S., where he co-wrote "Somebody to Love" with Alexandre Rockwell ("Four Rooms", "In the Soup"). As a director, Bodrov is best known for his film "The Prisoner of the Mountains", which won the FIPRESCI International Critics Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, an Academy Award nomination in the category "Best Foreign Film" and a European Academy Award for "Best European Writer of the Year".



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CTB FILM COMPANY ANFLAG FILM COMPANY X FILME CREATIVE POOL PRODUCTION IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH EURASIA FILMS KINOFABRIKA AND CINETOOLS FILMS PRESENT "MONGOL" TADANOBU ASANO SUN HONG LEI KHULAN CHULUUN
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SERGEY TROFIMOV, R.G.C. ROGIER STOFFERS, NSC MUSIC TUOMAS KANTELINEN ADDITIONAL MUSIC ALTAN URAG EDITORS ZACH STAENBERG, A.C.E. AND VALDIS OSKARSDOTTIR SOUND DESIGN KONKEN STUDIOS CASTING GUKA OMAROVA
PRODUCTION DESIGNER DASHI NAMDAKOV COSTUME DESIGNER KARIN LOHR, SFK VFX PRODUCER NIKITA ARGUNOV EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BOB BERNIEY BULAT GALIMGEREYEV ALEC SCHULMANN CO-PRODUCERS STEFAN ARNDT MANUELA STEHR GULNARA SARSENOVA
PRODUCED BY SERGEY SELYANOV SERGEI BODROV ANTON MELNIK WRITTEN BY ARIF ALIYEV & SERGEI BODROV DIRECTED BY SERGEI BODROV
SUPPORTED BY RUSSIAN FEDERAL AGENCY FOR CULTURE AND CINEMATOGRAPHY, KAZAKH MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION, FFA, FFH, MBB

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1172, Mongolia. The proud tribal chieftain Esugei embarks upon a journey across the windswept tundra to help his 9 year-old son Temudgin choose a bride. His goal is the fierce Merkit tribe, from whom he had stolen his own wife many years before, and with whom he now hopes to make peace. Fatefully, it is while visiting a friendly clan, and not among the Merkits, where Temudgin makes his choice. In five years he will return to marry Borte, the daughter of the tribe's chieftain. On the return journey, Esugei is poisoned by enemies and the young Temudgin returns home to find that the greedy Targutai has taken over as chieftain. To eliminate the future threat, Targutai declares that he must one day kill Temudgin, the clan's rightful leader. Driven by the need to avenge his father's loss and to uphold the vow he had made to Borte, the young boy escapes, protected only by the animal skins he wears and the faith he has in Tengri, The Lord of the Sky. Temudgin is found, barely alive, and taken in by a friendly tribe where he becomes the blood brother of Jamuhka, that tribe's future chief...

1186, Mongolia. With his loving wife Borte at his side, Temudgin is still without a clan and the chieftainship that is rightfully his. The Merkits, avenging Esugei's old offense, attack Temudgin and steal Borte... a wife for a wife. Severely wounded, it is to his blood brother Jamuhka that Temudgin turns. Together, they overcome the Merkits and retrieve Temudgin's beloved bride, but Jamuhka's men have seen something great in Temudgin, and abandon their chieftain to join up with the fierce warrior. Although still blood brothers having a great respect for each other, Jamuhka and Temudgin both know that their conflicting destinies are soon fated to collide. Afraid of Temudgin's growing strength, Targutai places his forces under Jamuhka's command to attack their common enemy. During the ensuing battle, Temudgin, seeing no hope for victory, sends Borte with the other women and children into the mountains for safety. Along with the few survivors, Temudgin is captured and sold off to slavery in the distant Tangut Kingdom. It is one year later that Borte, compelled by her love for Temudgin and convinced that she must take action, leaves the safety of the mountains to undertake the perilous mission to Tangut where she's able to rescue her imprisoned husband.

Finally free, Temudgin has his faithful wife, two children and a burning desire to bring law and unity to the whole of Mongolia, but there is one that still stands in his way. Amassing a great army of devoted warriors, he must now face off against the superior might of the army of his blood brother-turned enemy Jamuhka. In this final battle, Temudgin, aided by cunning strategy, the affection of his warriors and his faith in the god Tengri, wins a resounding victory – the first of many for the man who was soon to become known as Ghengis Khan, the greatest conqueror the world has ever seen...

Cast



Tadanobu Asano as Temudgin / Genghis Khan

Asano made his film debut in George Matsuoka's "Swimming Upstream" (Bataashi Kingyo) in 1990. Considered one of the most successful of today's Japanese actors in Asian independent cinema, Tadanobu Asano has been honored with numerous awards, including the Upstream Prize for Best Actor at the 2003 Venice International Film Festival for his role in the Thai film, "Last Life in the Universe", which was directed by Pen-ek Ratanaruang. His recent works include: "Ichi the Killer" (Koroshiya 1, 2001), directed by Takashi Miike, "Zatoichi", Takeshi Kitano's 2003 production, "Vital" (2004), from Shinya Tsukamoto, "Tokyo Zombie" (2005), directed by Sakichi Sato and his second collaboration with Pen-ek Ratanaruang, "Invisible Waves" in 2006.



Honglei Sun as Jamuhka

Born 1970 in China, Honglei Sun graduated from The Central Academy of Drama and went on to act in various stage productions. His outstanding performances quickly led to his breakthrough role as an assassin in the TV drama Yongbu Mingmu. A starring role followed in the internationally acclaimed director Zhang Yimou's big screen production of "The Road Home" in 1999. Soon considered one of China's best actors, Honglei Sun performed in numerous films, including "Happy Time" (2000), "Zhou Yu's Train" (2002), "Manhole" (2004), "The Seven Swords" (2005), and "Blood Brothers" (2007).



Khulan Chuluun as Borte

Although "Mongol" is her very first acting credit, for the Mongolian Khulan Chuluun it will certainly not be her last. Her inspiring and authentic portrayal of Temudgin's brave and faithful wife Borte displayed a natural yet subtle acting talent that will ensure her future as a successful actress.

