



THE FIRST ZEN INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

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會協禪一第國美

Film Series

Warriors of Heaven and Earth

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Directed by Ping He

Friday, August 10, 2012 7:30 – 9:30 PM

113 East 30th Street New York, NY 10016

Warriors of Heaven and Earth is set in the western deserts of China during the Tang Dynasty. The “Warriors” are a group of contract soldiers who guard caravans traversing the old silk road. One of them is the target of the Chinese emperor’s wrath because of his refusal to obey explicit orders to massacre civilians (owing to which he lost his commission as an officer in the imperial service, and is now guarding caravans). The emperor sends a Japanese assassin to murder him, but the two of them join forces to defend the caravan – putting off their final duel until later. On this particular occasion, the caravan consists of a large group of Buddhist monks along with relics of the Buddha which they are transporting from India to China. The relics of the Buddha have real power (somewhat like the power of the Ark of the Covenant in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*). One of the local warlords wants to seize the relics because of their power. Most of the action takes place outside of the borders of the Tang empire – a place inhabited by bandits and nomads where ordinary laws don’t apply. Spoken in Chinese with English subtitles. 120 minutes.

Admission is free.

