



THE FIRST ZEN INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

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會協禪一第國美

Film Series

# Ong-Bak

## The Thai Warrior

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Friday, April 12, 2013 7:30 – 9:30 PM

113 East 30<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10016

Buddhist antiquities sometimes sell for hundreds of thousands or even millions of dollars on the international art market. Over the past century, it has happened not infrequently that art objects kept in not-very-secure places, such as remote village temples, have just disappeared. *Ong-Bak The Thai Warrior*, starts in the village of Ban Nong Pradu, a rural village in northeastern Thailand, where the head from a local Buddha statue is lopped off and vanishes. The Buddha statue's name is "Ong-Bak." However, the culprit is spotted by the villagers, and they send their best athlete – Ting, played by Tony Jaa – on a mission to Bangkok to retrieve the Buddha head. Ting has learned muay Thai (Thai kick-boxing) from one of the village monks, and finds himself in Bangkok up against a crime gang which steals Buddhist antiquities on a professional basis. This is an action film dealing with loss and redemption of cultural heritage. Spoken in Thai with English subtitles.

Admission is free.

