

Dear Sir, Madam,

I don't know if I should address you in french or english, but as your website where I found your contact only exists in english, I guess I have more chances to be read in that language.

I am the deputy editor of the daily Liberation in Paris, until recently the paper's Beijing bureau chief. I'm also the co-author of a book, The Diary of Ma Yan (original title, Le Journal de Ma Yan), published in 19 languages and which has been turned into a movie by a chinese filmmaker without acquiring the intellectual property rights. This movie, The Story of Xiao Yan, by Fang Gangliang, has been circulating in a number of youth film festivals listed on your website, although it is perfectly illegal under all relevant IPR treaties signed by China. The DVD version of it claims on the cover (you can find it on the following website :

[http://cgi.ebay.com/CHINESE-DRAMA-MOVIE-THE-STORY-OF-XIAO-YAN-DVD\\_W00QitemZ9112496333QQcategoryZ60905QQcmdZViewItem](http://cgi.ebay.com/CHINESE-DRAMA-MOVIE-THE-STORY-OF-XIAO-YAN-DVD_W00QitemZ9112496333QQcategoryZ60905QQcmdZViewItem) <[http://cgi.ebay.com/CHINESE-DRAMA-MOVIE-THE-STORY-OF-XIAO-YAN-DVD\\_W00QitemZ9112496333QQcategoryZ60905QQcmdZViewItem](http://cgi.ebay.com/CHINESE-DRAMA-MOVIE-THE-STORY-OF-XIAO-YAN-DVD_W00QitemZ9112496333QQcategoryZ60905QQcmdZViewItem)> )

that it is the adaptation "of the famous Diary of Ma Yan", but the authors of publishers of the book have ordered them to stop showing the film outside China unless an agreement has been finalized, which is not yet the case. Some of the world's largest publishers, including HarperCollins in Canada and in the US, and Ramsay in France, are also involved in the dispute.

I'm writing to you to ask you to inform the member festivals of your network that they should stop showing this movie as long as an agreement has not been found. Showing this film is condoning violations of IPR in China, which, as you may know, is a major issue. We haven't used the legal way yet to stop the film from being shown outside China, but we may have to if our rights are not respected. Some youth film festivals such as the current Toronton festival, have refused to respond to our requests, arguing that they are not concerned by this dispute. This is both morally and legally wrong. Others, like the London festival at the Barbican last november, have courageously decided not to show the film after being informed of the situation.

These claims can be obviously verified. If you need any more information, you can contact Susanna Lea, the New York and Paris-based book agent who represents this book. E-mail: [slea@susannalea.com](mailto:slea@susannalea.com).

Best regards.

Pierre Haski

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Libération

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