

Quinzaine des Cinéastes

REVIEWS

Screen trailer here

The Guardian ****

written by Peter Bradshaw

"Zen-like tale of compassion and suffering among migrant care workers"

"Close attention is required for this sombre but impressive Taiwanese feature debut about exploited illegal staff, and their patients and gangmasters"

Screen Daily ****

Written by John Berra

"Chiang is among the crop of promising young filmmakers mentored by Hou Hsiao-hsien (credited here as an executive producer) and his approach recalls the distanced yet empathic observational sensibility of the recently retired Taiwanese master."

"Mongrel is shot in boxy academy ratio by cinematographer Michaël Capron which affords a sense of claustrophobia in a mountainous region."

DEADLINE

Written by Stephanie Bunbury

"There is a sense after seeing it, however, of having encountered greatness. That is a rarity, even in Cannes."

Cineuropa

Written by David Katz

"But Chiang, who was mentored by the now-retired Hou Hsiao-Hsien, a doyen of this national cinema, takes this common motif in a more rewarding direction, meditating on Taiwan's role in the global crisis of migration and displacement, and how East Asians who've landed on the island's shores are folded into the underground economy, here appropriately depicted with no glamour or romanticisation."

INDIEWIRE

Written by Josh Slater- Williams

"fitting that Taiwanese New Wave vanguard Hou Hsiao-hsien and Liao Ching-sung (Hou's regular editor) were reportedly on board this film as executive producers since its inception.

HIGH ON FILM

Written by Debanhan Dhar

"There's a serene, still devastation lurking at the heart of Chiang Wei Liang's "Mongrel." This is a film that works by way of spare gestures. Its silences, simmering through frequently long, measured takes, are potent with melancholy and resignation."

AFC

Interview with French DOP Michael Capron