

BYRON BAY WRITERS FESTIVAL PREVIEWS HOME SONG STORIES

Continuing its tradition of sharing the brightest new Australian films with Northern Rivers audiences, the Byron Bay Writers Festival is thrilled to announce the preview of *The Home Song Stories* at the Byron Cinemas on Tuesday 24 July at 7pm.

Slated for an August 23 release in Australia, *The Home Song Stories* is generating huge buzz, with the announcement that the film has been selected to screen in the Contemporary World Cinema program at the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival in September.

This latest accolade follows the film's international success at the Berlin Film Festival and the rousing response from local audiences at the recent Sydney and Adelaide Film Festivals. It will also screen at next month's Melbourne International Film Festival.

Writer/director Tony Ayres was recently awarded the \$15,000 Screenplay Prize at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards for his autobiographical script for *The Home Song Stories* and also received an AWGIE (Australian Writers Guild) nomination for Original Feature Film.

The Home Song Stories is the true story of Rose (played by the stunning Joan Chen), a glamorous Shanghai nightclub singer, who struggles to survive in seventies Australia with two young children. Based on writer/director Tony Ayres' own life, it is an epic tale of mothers and sons, mothers and daughters, unrequited love, betrayal and secrets. Sumptuously shot, tightly scripted and boasting impeccable performances, this is a film to savour and the best news is that Tony Ayres will be in attendance.

Audiences at the Byron Bay Writers Festival will enjoy a glass of champagne and nibbles, the sneak preview screening and a Q&A with Tony Ayres. This is one off, one shot chance to see what all the fuss is about and hear the stories behind the scenes. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.byronbaywritersfestival.com or Jetset Byron Bay, 02 6685 6262