



# THARLO

a film by **Peme Tsenden**

China / 2015 / 123 mns / B&W / Drama / DCP / 24 fps / 1:1.85



## SYNOPSIS

Tharlo is 40, and has a remarkable memory that allows him to recite Chairman Mao's little red book. He lives a quiet life alone in the Tibetan mountains with his hundreds of sheep. But his life turns upside down when he is asked to go to the city to have his photo taken for his first ID card. The photographer sends him to a young and pretty hairdresser who soon shows interest in him and his ponytail. But is she serious when talking about escaping together to Lhasa or Beijing? All he can think about now is the lovely city girl, and his journey to happiness and new discoveries...

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

THARLO is typical of Tibetans of the present generation.

This is a story that shows them in a state of confusion, disorientation and desensitization.

The film is made in black and white as the ruggedness in the images speaks of the situation and ambience of the vast lands of Tibet, and of the state of being of the protagonist, THARLO.

## THARLO, a novel first

Before being a film, THARLO was first a novel written by Pema Tseden. Published in France in 2013 with other novel in the book called SNOW ("Neige" in French) by established editor Editions Philippe Picquier, it also got published in Japan under the title THE SEARCH. The novel is part of several novels to be published in English early 2016 in the United States.



## DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Pema Tseden is a Tibetan director and writer.

Born in 1969, he started his carrier by doing several short films, before directing in 2005 his first feature *The Silent Holy Stones*, the first film in Tibetan shot in Tibet with a Tibetan cast and crew. His following films *THE SEARCH* (2008), *OLD DOG* (2010), and *THE SACRED ARROW* (2014) have been shown in major international film festivals where they won many prizes. Retrospectives of his films and academic conferences on his works have been organized in France, Unites States, Japan, Hong Kong and South Korea. He also directed documentaries for Discovery and for CCTV.

As a writer, Pema Tseden writes both in Tibetan and in Chinese. His books have been translated into English, French, German, Czech, and many other languages. Collections of his short stories translated and published include *Neige* (in France) and *The Search* (in Japan).

## FILMOGRAPHY (FICTION)

The Silent Holy Stones	(short film, 2003)
Grassland	(short film, 2004)
The Silent Holy Stones	(feature film, 2005)
The Search	(feature film, 2009)
Flares Wafting in 1983	(feature film, 2009)
Old Dog	(feature film, 2010)
The Sacred Arrow	(feature film, 2014)
Tharlo	(feature film, 2015)



## **PRODUCTION COMPANY filmography**

### **HEAVEN PICTURES**

#### **2010**

SINGLE MAN

directed by HAO Jie

San Sebastian IFF

#### **2011**

DON'T EXPECT PRAISE

directed by JIN Yang

Berlinale, Generation

#### **2012**

THE CREMATOR

directed by PENG Tao

Toronto IFF

FLY WITH THE CRANE

directed by LI Ruijun

Venice Orizzonti

#### **2013**

EMPEROR VISITS THE HELL

directed by LI Luo

Rotterdam IFF

#### **2014**

RIVER ROAD

directed by LI Ruijun,

Berlinale, Generation

#### **2015**

KAILI BLUES

directed by BI Gan

Best New Director Award, Locarno

TARLO

directed by PEMA Tsenden

Venice Orizzonti



## CAST & CREW

CAST	Shide Nyima Yangshik Tso
DIRECTOR	Pema Tseden
SCRIPT	Pema Tseden
PHOTOGRAPHY	Lu Songye
ART DIRECTOR	Daktse Dundrupp
EDITOR	Gregorius Arya Song Bing
SOUND	Dukar Tserang
MUSIC	Wang Jue
PRODUCED BY	Gao Hong Xu Li Sun Jialin
PRODUCERS	Wu Leilei Sean Wang
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Qin Ling
PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR	Zhang Xian Min
PRODUCTION	Heaven Pictures (Beijing) Culture & Media Co., Ltd. Beijing Ocean & Time Culture Communication Co., Ltd. Beijing YiHe Star Film Production Ltd. New Heaven Picture (Beijing) Culture & Media Co., Ltd.
INTERNATIONAL SALES	Asian Shadows