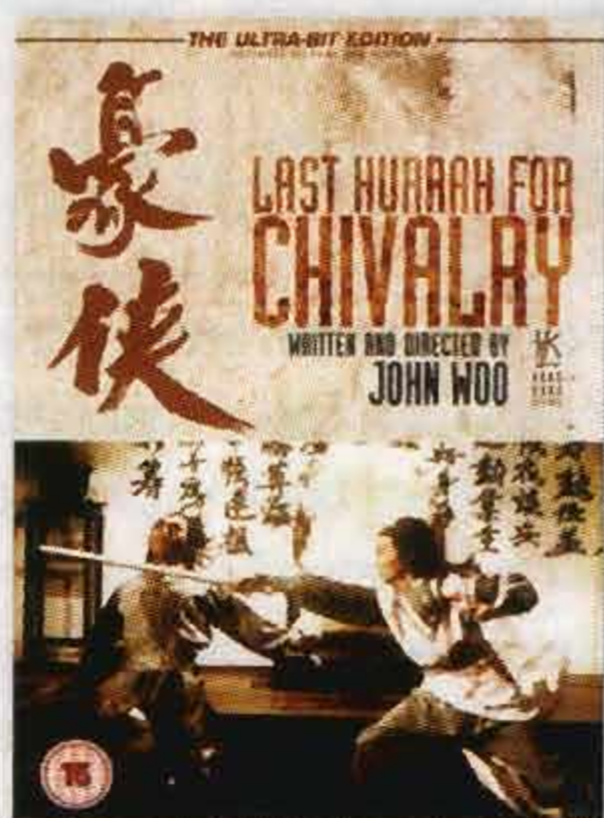


Last Hurrah For Chivalry



AVAILABLE: Now

LABEL: Hong Kong
Legends

CERTIFICATE: 15

NO. OF DISCS: 1 Disc

RETAIL PRICE: £16.99

RUNNING TIME: 106mins



Martial arts done right

Despite *Last Hurrah for Chivalry* being one the most entertaining kung-fu movies ever made, John Woo is probably better known in the west for films like the special-effects-laden *Mission: Impossible II* and his Hong Kong "heroic bloodshed" epics such as *Hard Boiled*.

First released back in 1978, *Last Hurrah* is set in ancient China, a land of strife and violence where everyone is an expert in one form of martial arts or another. In the midst of this are Kao and the mercenaries Chang and Green, as well as the stereotypically evil kung fu master Pai (who looks very much like he influenced the fabulously evil and over the top character Pai Mei in *Kill Bill Vol. 2*). Pai has his evil sights on Kao so the young man hires a pair of warriors to protect him – although

they don't know the half of his plans.

While *Last Hurrah* does look dated, the sword fighting is still breathtaking and the choreography is simply stunning – furthermore, there are plenty of good stunts, lots of blood, and limb-stretching gymnastics. Meanwhile, the plot has a host of twists and turns making this a classic example of the martial arts genre.

LESLEY SMITH

DVD EXTRAS

Alongside a series of trailers for other releases, the only real extra here is called *Familiar Faces: A Film Retrospective* – which looks back at the main actors other Hong Kong roles.

NEO VERDICT

This martial arts masterwork has never looked better! Fast-paced and thrilling, this is Woo at his best.

FILM



DVD EXTRAS

