



THE CHINESE TOM CRUISE

B'S'E'U'BIEN

Imagine you're a Chinese Tom Cruise fan. You're about to meet your idol. You spot that Colgate smile and outstretch your arm. "Hello," he says, and then you realise, "Hold on, that's not your voice!"

If you're watching a Tom Cruise movie in China, you'll never have heard Cruise's cool, East Coast accent. Instead, the voice you'll hear is that of Ren Wei, a Chinese actor who also lends his versatile larynx to such other celluloid studs as Ewan McGregor, Hugh Jackman and Joseph Fiennes.

"I have never used the fact that I am Atang's [Cruise's Cantonese nickname] voice actor to chat up women," says Wei, "but I have received letters from fans who say they really like my delivery. But that is not what is most important. My main aim is to satisfy the original actor as much as the audience."

On a cloudy day, Wei could easily pass for the Western original and, being Chinese, already shares a similarly stunted height. Of course, these guys earn a sliver of what the real guys do. Claudia Motta earned the equivalent of £500 for turning Kirsten Dunst Spanish in Spider-Man and India's Arnold Schwarzenegger makes only half that per film. While the bodies are earning millions and having their grapes peeled, their voices are tucking into packed lunches.

Think it's easy just turning up and doing the whole film in a recording studio? Wei says it ain't. "While Atang

has months to make the film, I have to do the whole thing - from learning the script to dubbing all the lines - in four days," he says. "We always have to rush because of the piracy problem in China. If we don't get the translation and dubbing done quickly, an unauthorised version will be out on the streets before ours."

With Mission: Impossible III, Wei's job involved so much shouting that his voice eventually went AWOL. "The director told me to go home and take a rest," Wei says. "The crew cracked jokes: 'Tom Cruise runs so fast he breaks his legs, Ren Wei shouts so loud he breaks his voice!'" **CLINT**



DUB BE GOOD

The German Leonardo DiCaprio

Gerrit Schmidt-Foss looks more like a financial advisor whose nearest scrape with adventure would be getting a mortgage application wrong. Yet he's been the German voice of the toddler-faced heartthrob Leonardo DiCaprio since Titanic. This year he was nominated for the ninth annual German Dubbing Awards. No, it's not televised live on Sky.



The French Angelina Jolie

Françoise Cadol was the voice of Lara Croft in France's Tomb Raider video games, so was the obvious go-to girl for when Angelina Jolie donned the khaki for the movie version. Since then, Cadol has been Jolie in everything from Mr and Mrs Smith to Wanted. "Sometimes my home phone will ring and when I say 'hello' there will be a sharp intake of breath at the other end. I know immediately it's a dubbing fan who has got hold of my number. Once a woman rang me and started gasping. Then after a silence, she said: 'Sorry, I'm just so emotional at hearing you, I can't speak, I'll have to call back.'"



The German Julia Roberts

Daniella Hoffmann has been the voice of Hollywood's letterboxed starlet since unveiling the dirtiest laugh she could at the voice auditions for Pretty Woman back in 1990. "I don't often get recognised as being the voice of Julia Roberts," she says. "I think women's voices are much harder to identify than men's. But being Julia has definitely brought work my way. Some adverts want the sound of 'Julia Roberts'."



The Indian Arnold Schwarzenegger

Pawan Kalra not only voiced Arnie in the Terminator movies and True Lies; he's also the man who lends Indian vocals to Owen Wilson, Brad Pitt, Bruce Willis and Hugh Jackman. "It's hardest with black actors like Eddie Murphy and Will Smith," Kalra says. "They are not only very funny but they speak very, very fast. Trying to street talk quickly in Hindi is extremely tough. After two days your mouth gets really tired."



The Chinese Donald Duck

He looks pretty fearsome and fittingly voiced Hannibal Lector in all three of the Anthony Hopkins movies, but 36-year-old Zhang Hanyu is also the voice of Donald Duck in China. But unusually for dubbing actors, he's also nabbed a fairly successful career with his own face, which admittedly has found itself on various sexiest lists in his own country.



TOP FIVE

PRINCESSES WITH BALLS



Think tough-girl Princess Leia is unrealistic? Nah, the only difference between her and the actual nobility is she resists shagging her brother.

1. PIN-YANG, CHINA

A life-long military commander, she secured her father as Emperor in 620AD, leading an army who conquered all resistance. She never disguised herself as a boy, fully able to multi-task owning a pair of tits and killing people.

2. HUILLAC, CHILE

Known as "The Tyrant" due to her love of ultra-violent torture, she successfully repelled Spanish invaders in 1780. Unfortunately she fell in love with one mid-torture and changed sides, the Spaniards responded by sending her down the mines. Lesson? However attractive a haemorrhaging man is, they go off you once untied.

3. NOOR OF MYSORE

A British spy - when betrayed to the Gestapo she fought so fiercely she was labelled "extremely dangerous" - coming from the Nazis, who skinned people alive, this is a compliment. Noor was handcuffed in solitary confinement for 10 months, revealing no information before her execution by shooting.



4. ELIZABETH, BRITAIN

Aged 18, Queenie signed up for the Auxiliary Territorial Service. Trained in driving HGVs at speed, she can change their tyres and completely strip the engine. Post revolution there's a job waiting at Quik Fit, Lizzie.

5. VICTORIA, SWEDEN

This June she married a commoner despite her family's furious disapproval. Not just any commoner, a specy, unkempt fitness instructor with a regional accent - think Clark Kent meets Ozzy Osborne. She then pissed off the rest of Sweden, discarding their traditions, by having her father give her away to a man he hates.



HIT GIRL WORDSEARCH

HIT	IT	BABY
HIT	THIS	BAG
OF	SHIT	LIKE
ITS	MICHAEL	FUCKING
MOORE		

