

off the fence.

China Rising

3 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Paradise of Adventures

This first film centres on Shanghai and charts the tumultuous birth-pangs of modern China: the era of warlords and western colonialists, of the emergence of Communism, the Northern Expedition, the White Terror and Japanese invasion. The Shanghai of the 1920s and 30s still evokes a glamorous aura of romance for many westerners, but for the Chinese it was the spiritual centre for all change throughout their country.

2. Change in Heaven

Based in Guangzhou in southern China, this film follows events from the bloody dramas of the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s to the daring economic experiments of the 1980s. Most remarkably, it features the harrowing eyewitness testimony of people, young and old, whose lives were irrevocably changed by the cruel and capricious waves of the Cultural Revolution.

3. Roads to Freedom

Set in the desolate 'yellow earth' province of Shaanxi in the north, this film tells how the Chinese Communist Party regrouped at Yanan after the epic Long March to plan for the defeat of both the Japanese and the Nationalists. The communists were in Yanan for over a decade, and it was here, under Mao Zedong, that they determined the policies and tried out the political systems that would shape the new China.