Critical Acclaim For
“LAST TRAIN HOME”
By Lixin Fan

“The future of global capitalism, in China and elsewhere: a family tragedy in the form of a documentary, as full of anger, dignity and pathos as a play by Arthur Miller.”

“Moving...There’s drama, misunderstanding and heartbreaking... [This family’s] pain really hits home when you think that the pants you might be wearing could have contributed to it.”

“A stunning documentary about the modern China... This is human drama, and it is real. Fan resists the urge to embellish and simply allows... [it] to unfold in front of your eyes.”
— Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times

“Beautifully explored... an exceptional documentary... An expert, unobtrusive observer, Fan disappears inside his own film and allows us to get completely inside his subjects’ lives.”
— Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times

“A miniature masterpiece of documentary observation.”
— Ty Burr, Boston Globe

“Last Train Home might just break your heart.”
— MSNBC.com “Today Show” Best Bets

“This is essential viewing for understanding our world.”
— Lisa Schwarzbaum, Entertainment Weekly

“An incredibly powerful story that should be seen and discussed around the world.”
— Kristin McCracken, The Huffington Post

“Chinese-Canadian director Lixin Fan presents the human cost of China’s economic rise in terms any parent or child can understand.”
— Colin Covert, Minneapolis Star Tribune

“A remarkable documentary... Gorgeously composed shots.”
— G. Allen Johnson, San Francisco Chronicle

“A moving and near-perfect piece of art. Do not miss Last Train Home... [It] is not a travelogue, a polemic or a history lesson, but simply a story of people, told with elegance and care. It’s also a rare recent documentary that avoids every modern nonfiction cliché.”
— Matt Zoller Seitz, Salon.com

“A startling look at the devastating human cost of China’s newfound embrace of capitalism.”
— V.A. Musetto, New York Post
“Heartbreaking. . . . [A] stunning beauty. . . . Emblematic of the shattering human cost of economic progress. . . . Last Train Home is about love and exploitation, sacrifice and endurance.”
— Jeanette Catsoulis, NPR

“The attention to visuals is above and beyond what most vérité is capable of; doing double duty as the film’s cinematographer, Fan demonstrates a pitch-perfect photojournalistic eye. . . . That Last Train Home balances such impeccable compositions with its cultural context and humanistic content . . . is damn near a miracle. 5 Stars (out of 5).”
— David Fear, Time Out New York

“The best documentaries transport you to a place you never knew existed and present you with ideas you never considered. This one does both, and in an enormously compelling and moving fashion.”
— Mike Scott, New Orleans Times-Picayune

“An exceptional observational documentary that charts a dramatic Chinese journey affecting just one family but representing the challenges facing a changing nation and a troubled world.”
— Eugene Hernandez, Indiewire

“A beautifully shot, haunting and haunted large-scale portrait about an astonishing migration . . .”

“An intimate, personal approach to a subject — hardworking Chinese garment workers — that's been covered in more hectoring fashion elsewhere.”
— Leslie Felperin, Variety

“Fan's fly-on-the-wall perspective enables the viewer to empathize with all the players in the family drama.”
— Carrie Rickey, Philadelphia Inquirer

“An intimate portrait of an unfathomable immensity, focusing on a single family caught up in the world's largest mass migration.”
— J. Hoberman, The Village Voice

“Last Train Home stands as an impressive feature debut from the thirty-something Lixin Fan and a harbinger of more great documentary cinema.”
— James Adams, Globe and Mail

“This small masterpiece of documentary filmmaking offers a human-scale look at the impact of China's industrial growth.”
— Marjorie Baumgarten, Austin Chronicle

“Jaw-droppingly beautiful and affecting. . . . Fan establishes a powerful intimacy with his subjects — so much so that, in a pivotal scene, the audience is usually left gasping . . .”
— What (Not) to Doc.com

“Lixin's film has all the sting and punch of a classic 19th century novel of industrial-boom America.”
— Chris Barsanti, Filmcritic.com

“The cinematography is beautiful; the story and characters are compelling.”
— Jennifer Merin, About.com