

# Houston Chronicle

## **Film fest**

By SHELBY HODGE

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Former Houston Ballet principal Li Cunxin and wife Mary are still beaming over the success of *Mao's Last Dancer*, the biopic film about Li, that showed at the Toronto International Film Festival. It received second place in the People's Choice award, just behind Oprah Winfrey's *Precious*.

The couple is back home in Australia where they have been busy with premieres of the film across the country. It is expected to be released in the U.S. sometime in 2010.

Joining them in Toronto were Lily and Charles Foster, who was Li's immigration attorney, and Li's close friends Ginya and Clayton Trier and Annie and Ken Culotta. They joined in the red-carpet parade along with dancer and actor Chi Cao, who plays Li; film director Bruce Beresford; producer Jane Scott; and actors Kyle McLachlan and Amanda Schull.