



## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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NEW YORK

# Cooking Up Chinese In Times Square

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After a two-day, live-action cookoff that transformed modern-day Times Square into China circa the Tang Dynasty, Flushing, Queen's Yongyi Jiang and Las Vegas's Ze Zheng reigned supreme at Sunday's third annual NTDTV International Chinese Culinary Competition Banquet held at Chelsea Piers' Pier Sixty.



The third annual NTDTV International Chinese Culinary Competition Banquet *EDWARD DAI*

The pair, who specialize, respectively, in Sichuan and Cantonese styles, competed against 33 other chefs from around the world including Australia, Hong Kong and Japan. (There were no entrants from China.)

"I was very surprised that I won," said Mr. Jiang who works at Chengdu 23 in Wayne, N.J. "It was a lifetime opportunity to cook in Times Square."

During the banquet, Mr. Jiang designed some of the evening's most delightful dishes such as a Chilean sea bass in yushiang sauce, Szechuan dumplings and scallops in fragrant scallion oil.

Asked what Mr. Jiang was going to do with the \$10,000 prize money that he was awarded, he responded, "I'm too tired right now to even think about it, and I have to go back to cooking."

—Priya Rao

## Film Delves Inside Economic Meltdown

Narrated by the actor Matt Damon and featuring expert testimonials from Eliot Spitzer, New York University economics professor Nouriel Roubini and French finance minister Christine Lagarde, "Inside Job," a documentary by Charles Ferguson, offers an informational—think graphs and charts—albeit bleak portrait of what caused the global financial collapse in 2008. Though he tried, Mr. Ferguson couldn't persuade White House National Economic Council director Larry Summers or former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson to give him any time.



Matt Damon and Charles Ferguson *GETTY IMAGES*

wanted to make a film that everybody could understand," Mr. Ferguson said at the after-party at Gabriel's following the film's premiere at the New York Film Festival.

The documentary doesn't offer easy answers or quick fixes. It even exposes flaws in the academic economic profession with embarrassing interviews from former Federal Reserve board member Frederic Mishkin.

"I

"When [President] Obama was elected he had a truly historic opportunity to make a dramatic difference, but he blew it," said Mr. Ferguson. "It's all going to be a longer, more gradual process of people getting organized, people getting angry and forcing their leaders to change."

—Priya Rao

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