What has Zen got to do with the movie ‘Hero’?

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In 2004 Zhang Yimou's "Hero" took the world by storm. Its visually stunning cinematography and superior martial art sequences captured the hearts of many viewers. Film critics focused either on its nationalist message or on the obvious Daoist mythology reflected in the portrayal of the protagonists and their abilities. However, few people recognized that the narrative borrowed heavily from the Zhuangzi and Zen poems. This talk will examine the textual basis of the film and the Zen Buddhist philosophy that shaped its storyline. How does the film illustrate Zen philosophy and what can it tell us viewers in the 21st century?

Monday, March 21, 2016, 3:30PM,
C129 Pomerantz Center

All are welcome