

离
思



A Waking
A film by Clare Chong

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

CAST

Directed By Clare CHONG
Screenplay By Clare CHONG
Producer Natasha SOH
Director Of Photography Aaron Andrew ANG
Production Designer Germaine NG
Editor Farhan MISNAM
Art Director Cherry WIN
Costume Designer Elton LOW
Supervising Sound Editor Mervin WONG

Country Singapore
Duration 16.35 min
Language Chinese/English
Image Colour
Shooting Format RED Epic-W Helium
Ratio 16:9
Shooting Locations Singapore

Xuan ONG Yi Xuan
Bus Driver LI Wen Qiang
Tour Guide LIU Dong Qing

A Waking (离思) - a film by CLARE CHONG



CREDITS FILMMAKERS BIOGRAPHY



CAST BIOGRAPHY



DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



SYNOPSIS



FILM INFORMATION



LOGLINE

SYNOPSIS

Xuan, a 16 year old travels on a tour group through an unknown city, and falls prey to the advances of two older men. Will she seek solace in this temporary companionship?

Xuan, a 16 year old girl, finds herself on an uneventful bus tour in a foreign land. Wandering through the sleepless town in the middle of the night, she meets the tour guide and bus driver at a skewer stall where the two men take turns making advances on her.

Xuan gives in to the pursuit of adventure, and unknowingly enters a world that is at once terrifying and exciting. She finds herself ensnared in the hands of desire, trapped in restless dreams and dazed fantasies.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

My main character's inspired by my own experience growing up in an all female household. Since young, my father has been an absent figure as he works overseas to support our family. There is a conflict I have within myself, one that sees a lack of a father figure, but one that admires my father for being able to stand the years of solitude overseas, working in harsh conditions in third world countries in order to earn money for me to have a better life.

Often times I find myself yearning for a father figure, an older man who can guide me and teach me, and to provide me with a warmth I do not find with my mother and sister. This is a yearning I have had for years.

When I reached the age of fourteen, I started to see the world a little differently, that perhaps this yearning is not just for warmth and comfort, but a sexual energy I never knew existed. I shied away from this idea for fear that I would sexualise whatever yearning I had for my father, but some how these fears have manifested in my relationship with other men. Self introspection has showed me that I leaned towards older men, more secure figures just like my father, Oedipal complex if you must.

At the age of sixteen, I travelled to China with my mother and sister, and realised that I became an object of attraction, lust, and a prize at the end of the journey for the bus driver and tour guide. I often feel their gaze, their occasional brush against me and sly smiles, not that my mother and sister ever noticed.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Perhaps it was because I was in a foreign land, I knew no fear. I wanted to see what men were made of, metaphorically and literally. I didn't want to be a victim to their male gazes, and tried to turn the tables instead, subjecting them to my own gaze, defiantly. On hindsight it was a very childish thing to do, one that caused me years of trauma which I have never spoken about, but it has also made me realise just how deeply a single experience affected my perception of men, my intimate and emotional relationships, and my relationship with my father.

Men became monsters, people I feared, people I distrusted because I have a perception that one will betray and cheat at any moment. I formed in my mind an image of my father cheating for years when he was away, and I took a vow to never let men use me, but for me to use them instead. All in an act of self defence. I cheat instead of being cheated on, I was promiscuous because I wanted to do better than men, and I pretended I didn't care even though it turned me rotten inside.

This film is a can of worms I daren't open for seven years, for fear of what it might change in me. Taking on this film to relive my memories and to confront my deep seated fears and opinions on men and my relationship to them has been a mammoth task, but it has given me some hope that perhaps it is time to move on, perhaps I have been numb for too long.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



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Commercial works: heistudio.sg

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Clare Chong works with the undertones of the mundane. She is concerned with issues prevalent in mundane life; the wink of an eye, the slight curl of the lips, a twitch in the ears. Her subjects are often quiet outcasts of society we don't pay attention to, and her works challenges the viewers' means of gazing and observing - To what extent do we impose our preconceived notions, judgements, and opinions onto an image?

Chong lives and works in Singapore. She completed her International Baccalaureate Diploma at SOTA School Of The Arts, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelor's Degree in Film. She freelances as a First & Second assistant director in Singapore's media industry, and runs a creative company, Hei Studio.

Chong's body of works consist of narrative short films, commercials, music videos, and video art. Her works have been showcased at various film festivals, art galleries, events, and talks, but all these are secondary to her wish of making her works accessible to anyone, anywhere.

Short films:

2018 - Please Dream Of Me, Commissioned by Temasek & Mm2
20/20 - Director, Editor

2016 - MIITA, Commissioned by Seeing Eye Films - Director

2016 - Toogie's Trip To Bukuokuka - Director, Editor
Official Selection Fargo Film Festival, Official Selection
Cairo 8th International Film Festival, Semi Finalist of
Bideodromo International Experimental Film Festival 2018

2014 - Stranger By Night, Writer - Director, Producer, Editor
Official Selection 11th Singapore Short Cuts, Presented at
Yale NUS Arts Festival, Official Selection University of
Cambridge 'Double Exposure: Film Screenings'. Nominations
for Best Fiction, Best Director, Best Performance, Best Script
- 6th Singapore Short Film Awards

Video Art:

2018 - The Ghost In Your Head, commissioned by Singapore
Writers Festival - Director, Editor

2018 - Ascension, commissioned by Dirk Stromberg - Director,
Editor, Colorist

2017 - In My Mind - Director

2016 - Anderer, Ongoing project - Director, Editor

2015 - L P H, Noise Singapore's The Apprenticeship Program -
Director, Editor

2013 - Sound Film I, 13 Little Pictures Film Lab - Director, Sound
Designer, Editor
2nd Prize Experimental short film for 13 Little Pictures Film
Lab

Installations & exhibitions:

2018 - The Ghost In Your Head, lighting designer, video artist, and
art director - Singapore Writers Festival

2018 - Do Worms Have Eyes?, Solo Exhibition - Sobandwine

2016 - Untapped Discovery, Group Show - Visual Arts
Development Association

2016 - Debrief X Clire Chong, Solo Exhibition - Canvas

2015 - Noise Singapore's The Apprenticeship Program, Group Show
- Noise

CAST BIOGRAPHY



Ong Yi Xuan is an actor, movement artist and theatre-maker. She graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2018 with a BA (First Class) in Acting.

Recent works include Temple (Cake Theatre), The Cat In The Hat (SRT-The Little Company), Stupid Cupid (Patch and Punnet) and Girls Wanna Have Fun for Running With Strippers (Cake Theatre).

She believes in being a fiercely unapologetic conduit for all lives whom she is tasked to represent onstage and screen.

PRODUCER



Natasha Soh lives and works in Singapore. She completed her Diploma at Nanyang Polytechnic, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelors in Film. She discovered her interest in producing as finds the sentiment of achievement amid the procedure of filmmaking to be exceptionally satisfying. Beside Directing, Natasha has also taken a leap of faith and ventured into Producing in a short film in 2018. Likewise, she participated in My RØDE Reel Short Film Competition in 2017.

Majoring in Producing, she hopes to push the limits of narrating that is relatable to the group of onlookers through the inventive development of the body of her work. She wants to deliver film and substance that moves as well as achieve positive change to the network, and she trusts that the film industry will proceed to advance and determined that can adjust to the changing scene. Her latest project titled “The feeling that doesn’t reach” (2018). She has works on a short film titled “Chopstick” (2018), “Last Rites” (2018), “Happy V Day” (2018), “Radin Mas” (2017), “Takdir” (2017) and “Amber” (2017).

SCREENWRITER



Afiqa Anzari lives and works in Singapore. She completed her Diploma at Republic Polytechnic, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelors in Film. She was highly influenced by english culture since young and she was heavily inclines toward Singapore television series from channel 5 which sparks her passion for writing. She tries to recount the least complex stories through the excellence of English, and make films that lead individuals towards self-reflection.

Beside Screenwriting, Afiqa has also taken a leap of faith and ventured into Production Design in a short film in 2018. Majoring in Screenwriting, she hopes to share her voice as an important platform through writing and loves to explore in storytelling. Her latest project titled titled "The Greater Monster" (2018), the film was nominated at the Viddsee Juree Awards Singapore 2018 as a Finalist.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY



Aaron Andrew Ang is a cinematographer who uses the lens as an extension to express the human sensitivity to light, composition and movement. Film is a medium for him to unravel characters' minds, narratives, and to go beyond the conventions of storytelling. Majoring in Cinematography, he hopes to share his story through visuals and style, planning to be a fine cinematographer later on.

Aaron lives and works in Singapore. He completed his Diploma at Temasek Polytechnic, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelors in Film. He also freelances as a creative photographer and videographer in Singapore's media industry, and co-founded a creative company, Hei Studio. Aaron's body of works consist of narrative short films, commercials, music videos, video art, and documentaries.

His latest project titled "Please dream of me" (2018), starring Allen Wong and Cheryl Huang Wan Rong that was part of the 20/20 Temasek Short Film Competition organised by MM2 and Temasek. Beside Cinematography, Aaron has also taken a leap of faith and ventured into Producing in a short film in 2018. Titled "The Greater Monster" (2018), the film was nominated at the Vidsee Juree Awards Singapore 2018 as a Finalist.

GAFFER



Jonathan Chan lives and works in Singapore. He completed his Diploma at Lasalle College Of The Arts, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelors in Film. He technically trained under numerous film sets and television productions and that allowed him to learn the inner working of a key role production. Through painstakingly honing his craft by continuously taking on new projects his vision towards cinematography has sharpened. His meticulous eye for detail allows him to notice the smallest detail as lighting is something that is almost impossible to be totally immersed and feel something is truly real with images alone

His recent achievement a documentary that he is the cinematographer for a documentary “ I Want To Go Home” is one out of 10 documentaries competing in BIFF’s Wide Angle category that aims to showcase works with broad cinematic viewpoints and a distinct vision. Making its world premiere at Busan International Film Festival and another at Golden Tree International Documentary Film Festive shortlisted 16th entries among 35 countries and region.

His latest project titled “The Parchment” (2018), starring Sivakumar Palakrishnan and Raghav Sriram was nominated as Sony Best Camerawork Award and Best Picture Award at the National Youth Film Awards 2018. Titled “The Greater Monster” (2018), the film was nominated at the Viddsee Juree Awards Singapore 2018 as a Finalist.

LOCATION SOUND RECORDIST



Haakon Teo lives and works in Singapore. He completed his Diploma at Temasek Polytechnic, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelors in Film. He is ardent in sound as sound is something that is of most extreme significance in a film. Beside Sound, Haakon has also taken a leap of faith and ventured into cinematography in a short film in 2018. Majoring in Sound, he hope to bring sound which is relatively difficult to be completely inundated and feel something is genuinely genuine with pictures alone.

His latest project titled “The Greater Monster” (2018), the film was nominated at the Vidsee Juree Awards Singapore 2018 as a Finalist. He has works on a short film titled “Chopstick” (2018), “Till Death Ice Packs” (2017) and “Till Death Love Us Apart” (2013).

PRODUCTION DESIGNER



Germaine Ng lives and works in Singapore. She completed her Diploma at Nanyang Polytechnic, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelors in Film. She is passionate about her craft in set design and enjoys testing herself with various classes of film. Majoring in Production Design, she hopes to channel the director's imaginative vision onto the screen and additionally conceivable while infusing her very own style into the film because she trusts creative ability offers the most extravagant points of interest and information. Likewise, she participated in My RØDE Reel Short Film Competition in 2017.

Her latest project titled “Please dream of me” (2018), starring Allen Wong and Cheryl Huang Wan Rong that was part of the 20/20 Temasek Short Film Competition organised by MM2 and Temasek. Beside Cinematography, Germaine has also taken a leap of faith and ventured into Production Design in a short film in 2018. Titled “The Greater Monster” (2018), the film was nominated at the Vidsee Juree Awards Singapore 2018 as a Finalist.



Farhan Misnam lives and works in Singapore. He completed his Diploma at Nanyang Polytechnic, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelors in Film. Always enamoured by media and narrating, it makes him adore film more, particularly after generation. He sought to be an expert editor in the media business, and he endeavours to exceed expectations in his area of expertise as each cut could make an impact and importance to the story through distinctive feelings and articulations that individuals portrays. Beside Editing, Farhan has also taken a leap of faith and ventured into Sound in a short film in 2018.

Majoring in Editing, he hope to bring justice to the story in his craft through fits and pieces of film together to make a completed motion picture. His latest project titled titled "The Greater Monster" (2018), the film was nominated at the Vidsee Juree Awards Singapore 2018 as a Finalist. Beside Editing, Farhan has also taken a leap of faith and ventured into Sound in a short film in 2018. Titled "Damaged on the Insider" (2018), the film was nominated at the Vidsee Juree Awards Singapore 2018 as a Finalist.

SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR



Chan Qi Yan lives and works in Singapore. He completed his Diploma at Temasak Polytechnic, and is currently enrolled in Lasalle College Of The Arts for a Bachelors in Film. Qi Yan stumbled upon a revelation, or calling per say, of Sound in film. Since then, he has been building upon his skillset as a Location Sound Recordist and Sound Designer both in school and the industry for 2 years.

On set, be wary of his eagle-like ears darting across various objects just to hear how it sounds. Majoring in Sound, he knows that without good sound, a film could be rendered unwatchable but with good sound, it will take the audience to a whole new world. That experience of seeing a final product he worked hard on is what drives him.

SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR



Mervin Wong is a sonic alchemist who creates music and sculpts sound, producing & composing bespoke music for film, media, installations, as well as collaborations with performing and visual artists. 2018 marked the debut of his solo project Theemptybluesky with the full length album: *Aphelion*.

His curiosity has also led him to a wide range of multidisciplinary collaborations that allow him to venture and explore beyond the realm of sound into film, multimedia-visuals, installations, projection mapping, and production design.

Mervin has graduated from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts with a diploma in Music as well as from the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music with a Bachelor of Music (Honours).

Mervin's latest artistic outputs include scoring the music for *That Which Cannot Be Divided*, an Esplanade Commission and Production as part of Huayi Festival 2019, composing the score for SRT's production of *Guards at the Taj* (Nov - Dec 2018), co-directing *Voyage Festival* (Aug 2018) at the YST Conservatory, his work on *Osmosis*, an unlikely trio with pianist Nat Ng, and poet Felix Cheong, as well as arranging and producing a version of Singapore's national anthem *Majulah Singapura* for the Singapore F1 Grand Prix 2018, performed by Vanessa Fernandez.

CAST

Xuan
Bus Driver
Tour Guide

Mother
Little Sister

Old Man
Bar Singer
Skewer Stall Owner
Concierge
Trinket Stall Owner
Trinket Stall Extras

Alley Extras

Bird Nest Old Couple

Bird Nest Young Couple

Bird Nest Siblings

Bird Nest Two Girls

Bird Nest Couple of Three

Ong Yi Xuan
Li Wen Qiang
Dong Qing

Maddy Yap
Brandy Low

Pang Nai Soon
Priscilla Boh
Owen
Nydia Hartono
Ke Wei Liang
Goh Koon How
Luther Sng
Noah Sng
Marcus Fintan Chung
Te Hao Boon

Akai Chew
Christopher Jen Wong
Goh Koon How
Ke Wei Liang
Rachel Cheng

Ivan Tan
June Kok
Ng Jing Yun
Bazil Zainal
Alistair Chong
Angelique Chong
Shannen Tan
Loh Wan Qi
Faye Tan
Richard Chappell
Chew Shaw En

CREW

Director	Clare Chong
Writers	Clare Chong Afiqa Anzari Natasha Soh
Producer	
Co-Producer	Ayusha Chaudhury
First Assistant Director	Koh Zhi Hao
Second Assistant Director	Ashwind Menon
Location Manager	Wong Jade Xin
Script Supervisor	Shaneeza Adnan
Casting Director	Boey Hui Ling
Director of Photography	Aaron Andrew Ang
First Camera Assistant	Jonathan Yong
Second Camera Assistant	Regine Yeow
Digital Imaging Technician	Farhan Misnam
Gaffer	Jonathan Chan
Key Grip	Chervin Chua
Best Boy	Chan Qi Yan
Grip	Ian Jeimz Edinburgh Poh Alvin Thoo
Location Sound Recordist	Haakon Teo
Boom Operator	Chiam Shu Yun
Production Designer	Germaine Ng
Art Director	Cherry Win
Art Assistant	Elisha Markus Syamsul Bahari Javeus Toh
Wardrobe Stylist	Elton Low
Hair/Makeup Stylist	Kenneth Chia
Production Assistant	Roy Paulinus Faris Kamis

SPECIAL THANKS
CREW

BTS Photographer

Low Zi Qi

**Editor
Colourist
Sound Design**

**Farhan Misnam
Aaron Andrew Ang
Chan Qi Yan
Mervin Wong**

Programme Leader

Khalid Al- Mkhlaafy

Project Advisers

**Charles Maideen
Cecile Chaugnaud
Goh Hiro Toshi
Hideho Urata
Liz Lander
Mardhiah Osman**

Lecturers

**He Shu Ming
Jonathan Ogilvie
Ng Swee San
Nigel Woodford
Kenny Gee
Jeremy Chua**

Technical Officers

**Jesmen Tan
Selva Kumar**

THANKS

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New Cape Inn
Pat's Pub
The Ang Family
Red Bulls Singapore Pte Ltd
United Limousine Transport Services
Wee Li Lin
Yale-NUS Services

Chanel Xu
Danica Pablo
Eugene Lim
Rachel Cheng
Yan Qiu Fei
Joant Ubeda
Teng Ky-Gan
Tan Bee Thiam
Gayle Hariff
Antti Toivonen

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