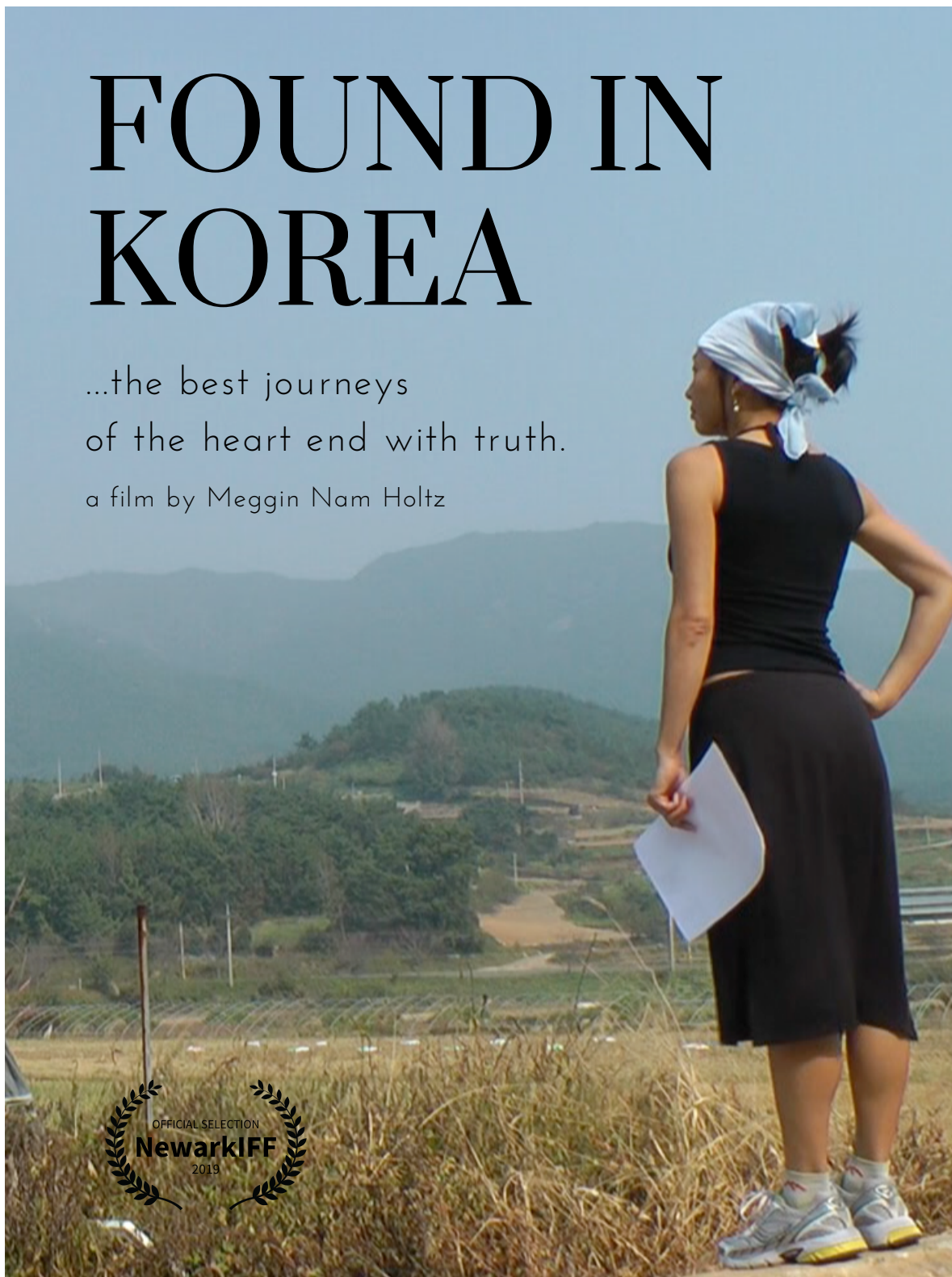


# FOUND IN KOREA

...the best journeys  
of the heart end with truth.

a film by Meggin Nam Holtz



A documentary feature length film by Meggin Nam Holtz  
running time: 74 minutes | dialogue: English & Korean w/subtitles | DCP  
Found in Korea Movie LLC | [www.foundinkorea.com](http://www.foundinkorea.com)

## Synopsis

Abandoned and left in the streets as a newborn baby, Korean adoptee (Nam) returns home to find the world she lost as a baby. In search of her birth parents, she attempts to retrace her journey from birth to being adopted by a family in America, but old records and 35 years of economic growth have transformed the Korea of her infancy into a country where information held on paper is a thing of the past, leaving her with no trail to follow. Desperate for more information, Nam travels south to the island where she was born in hopes of discovering unknown files and people who might remember her story. Along the way she interviews social workers, Koreans and other adoptees, and discovers why over 200,000 children have been sent away from Korea for international adoption.



*Found in Korea screen capture*

“*Found in Korea* asks that we see strangers as potential family. It is a testament to humanity’s capacity to help one another.”

~Sarah Lyons (VICE)

“*Found in Korea* stands well with the other Korean adoptee films including Samantha Futerman’s *Twinsters*, Tammy Chu’s *Resilience*, the documentary films of Deann Borshay Liem, and Jennifer Arndt’s *Crossing Chasms*.”

~In Kuk Ro (KOREAN QUARTERLY)

**MEGGIN NAM HOLTZ** (Executive Producer/ Director/Writer) “Nam” was adopted from Korea at the age of 6 months. Nam graduated cum laude from SUNY Purchase with a BFA in dance. Holtz spent her first year after college on scholarship at the *Merce Cunningham* dance studio. During this time, she was cast in *The King & I* on Broadway and went on to perform the show in London’s West



End at the London Palladium. Nam has also performed in Ben Elton/Queen’s: *We Will Rock You* at Las Vegas’ Paris, and toured across the USA in *Miss Saigon* and *Flower Drum Song*. She has acted in films/TV *Maggie Marvel*, HBO’s *Bored to Death*, and in commercials including *Windex*, *Starkist Tuna*, *Raymore and Flannigan*, *ioTV*, *Sharkweek/Miller64* and *DC Lotto*. In 2011, Nam co-produced the short film *Playback*. In 2015, Nam’s poem “*Who Cut My Umbilical Cord?*” was published in *Flip the Script – an Adult Adoptee Anthology*. Over the past 8 years, Nam has become active in adoption awareness and advocacy. Nam spent 2 years facilitating the teen mentorship group at *All Together Now*, a support group for adoptees and their families in Brooklyn, NY. She is currently obtaining an MSW at Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College.



**ALLISON LANE** (Director/Editor/ Producer/Writer) is an award-winning filmmaker and a graduate of the University of Michigan. As a director/writer/producer/editor, Allison has won multiple awards including Best Comedy (International Television Festival, Los Angeles), Best TV Pilot (Hoboken International Film Festival), Best Comedy Short (Illinois International Film Festival, Chicago), and Best Ensemble Cast (Houston

Comedy Film Festival). In addition to awards, her work has received critical praise. Rogue Cinema raved “Allison has turned me into an instant super fan. I want to see everything she makes or is involved with now”. She directed/wrote/produced/edited the critically praised multi-award winning TV pilot *WTFU* and 3 seasons of the hit comedy web series *TMB*. She has also written for *Your Tango Media*, as well as produced, written and edited numerous commercials, corporate spots, shorts, and web series for a variety of clients. Allison is currently Unit Production Managing the narrative feature film thriller *Kiss Me, Kill Me*. Allison is also directing, executive producing, and editing the 30-minute documentary *Memories of Pearl Harbor: The Jeanne Smith Story*. Allison is the President of Reel Spiel Productions, LLC.

**KEVYN SETTLE** (Director/Producer) was born in Richmond VA. Kevyn is an award winning, producer, director and writer, heading his own production company, Napkin Sketch Productions. After graduating from High Point University in N. Carolina, Settle landed in Washington D.C., where he worked in advertising agencies producing commercials, and began his film-producing career shortly thereafter. Kevyn’s short narrative *Tracks*, appeared in over a dozen film festivals, winning Best Short in three festivals, including, Jury Prixe Best Short Film at the 14<sup>th</sup> Long International Island Film Expo, and Best Short at the Virginia Independent Film Festival. The film also took individual awards: Best Original Song at the Long International Island Film Expo, and Best Cinematography, and Best Actor (short) at the World Music and International Film Festival. During 2011, Kevyn also wrote and directed the dramatic thriller, *Playback*. Kevyn is currently working on a yet-to-be titled Viet Nam documentary about two brothers separated by over 60 years of conflict.



On location in S. Korea

**JON FOY** (Cinematographer) Filmmaker and musical composer Jon Foy is winner of Best Director Documentary, U.S. Documentary Competition at 2011’s Sundance Film Festival. He started planning his documentary, *Resurrect Dead: The Mystery of the Toynbee Tiles*, about the mysterious Toynbee tiles with artist Justin Duerr a decade ago, and began filming in 2005 after dropping out of film school in Austin, TX. A seasoned rock musician, Foy taught himself the art of film score composition and also scored *The Chinese Room* (2008).

**Artist’s Statement**

In producing *Found in Korea*, I hope to engage the public by exploring the unique challenges and needs of adopted/fostered people and ultimately, raise the adopted persons voice in this world.

I wanted to create a film where the lead character is someone I could have related to when I was young. *Found in Korea* is geared towards children: target age 10; however, children far younger and adults far older can enjoy this documentary. I created the film so that children



On location in S. Korea: Namhae beach

and adults can have a dialogue about questions, thoughts, ideas, and emotions surrounding adoption. I believe that by acknowledging relinquishment and adoption as trauma, we can heal people of all ages and create healthier human relationships.

The desire to produce *Found in Korea* stemmed from a willingness to investigate my unknown history, the healing I discovered in truth, culture, and a desire to help others on their journey.

~Nam



*On location in S. Korea: Namhae fishing boat*



*On location in S. Korea: Seoul street performance*



*On location in Times Square NYC (Photo: Weisser photography)*

## Credits

**Executive Producer** MEGGIN NAM HOLTZ

**Also Produced by** ALLISON LANE,  
KEVYN SETTLE, FRED ISOZAKI,  
WILLIAM KAPLANIDIS,  
ETHAN LE PHONG,  
MYUNGSOO PARK,

& ANDREA and PAUL COMPTON

**Edited by** ALLISON LANE

of REEL SPIEL PRODUCTIONS

**Camera/Sound Operations** JON FOY,

KEVYN SETTLE, & NAM HOLTZ

**Sound Editing by** BILL MATTINSON

**Music by** BEN LEWIS, JONT,

STEPHEN LU, & BILL MATTINSON

**Voice Overs by** NAM HOLTZ

& VONG PAK,

& CHUNGHEE CHO

**Translations by** KATHERINE PARK,

VONG PAK, & HYUNG JIN CHA

## In the News...

New York Times – [Reconciling Asian-American Identity Within Transracial Adoptions](#)

Voices of NY – [One Woman’s Story Lost and Found in Korea](#)

SBS.KR News – 월드리포트] '남해에서

뉴욕까지: SBS 원본 링크 : [Adoptee Creates](#)

[Documentary about Search for her Birth Parents](#)

Holt International – [Found in Korea](#)



*On location in S. Korea: Busan market*

For more information visit:

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