

QUYNH NGUYEN

MINH PHUONG BUI

JANICK MARTINEZ

À LA CARTE

A FILM BY JAY DO

DIRECTOR & SCREENWRITER **JAY DO** EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS **TU NGUYEN & NAM ANH TRAN** PRODUCERS **TUAN DO & TU NGUYEN**

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **BOB NGUYEN ACS** PRODUCTION DESIGNER **KELLY HOANG** POSTER DESIGNER **THIEN**

MUSIC BY **TRI MINH** SOUND DESIGN **NGOC HUNG NGUYEN & QUANG KHONG** EDITORS **JAY DO & NAM ANH TRAN**

PRODUCTION COMPANY **SCORES PRODUCTION** WITH THE SUPPORT OF **HANOI LENS & PIXELS GARDEN**

À LA CARTE | Press Notes

Written and Directed by Jay Do
Produced by Tuan Do, Tu Nguyen
Presents by 5cores Production
2020 / 5 minutes / Drama, Thriller / Vietnam / Color /
English caption, No Dialogues

Press Contacts

Director : Jay Do – jay.hungdo@gmail.com
Producers: Tuan Do – tuandm11@gmail.com
Tu Nguyen – nguyentu@5cores.com

Logline

A Northern Vietnamese girl trying to save her family from capital punishment by serving a traditional cuisine to a French General.

Synopsis

Hanoi, 1940s – during French colonial era, a young Northern Vietnamese girl has to cook what later on becomes a traditional food of Vietnam, to serve a French General in hope of saving her family from capital punishment.





Director's Statement

À La Carte is a story that reflects the cultural values of Viet Nam, a country that was colonized by hundreds, thousands of years, yet the people never loses their roots, their mother language and culture. For this film, every frames was crafted like paintings, with deep meaning and contexts, with beautiful thoughts lies beneath, just like the way Vietnamese literature has been passing down from generation to generation.

Artistic Direction

Vietnam has a rich culture of literature. Throughout generations, many stories and poems have been passed down through education.

The morals in such works often follow themes of calmness and zen.

The Visual of this film recreates the feeling of reading a poem. Every frame is like an oil painting, meaningful yet subtle in audience's thinking.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why did you believe this was a story worth telling?

French Colonial Era has always been a crucial part of Vietnam's history and it was one of many elements that shaped Vietnam's culture and lifestyle today. There were many horrific things in history that not only the young generation of Vietnam doesn't care about, but also the world hasn't been aware of. My grandparents were born and raised during the war time, I have heard many sad stories of what happened during the time because my grand father was one of the translators for French army in Vietnam. By telling this story, I hope I could present a new perspective into the history of my country, to show the new generation of what our people has to go through as well as how strong they were during their hard time.

Q: Is it hard to make a historical based film ?

It is, indeed, very hard. The accuracy is the most important thing when telling a story based off true history. Not only the location is hard, but other elements such as props, set design and the hardest of them all, costumes of characters. To be able to make this film right, we have to go through hours of researching and asking for guidance from historians.

Q: Where can the film be seen?

Currently we're looking at doing a festival run.

Biography

TUAN DO
Producer

In 2008, Tuan graduated from the cine program funded by Ford Foundation. He started his career by producing, directing and screenwriting for shortfilms. Not long after, he was part of many feature film projects such as "Bi, don't be afraid" (Won the award of best screenplay at SACD and ACID award at critic weeks ceremony, official selection for Cannes 2010), "Big Father, Small Father and Other Stories" (Official selection for Golden Bear, Berlin film festival).

Tuan also part of Asian Film Academy (AFA) as a producer. He learned and got valuable experiences working in many multi culture environment of Asia such as India, Srilanka, East Asian countries, etc. After graduated producing program from Asian Busan Film School, he has been working as an international producer for many independent film projects in home country, Viet Nam.

Recently, he has been producing for a feature project "Season of Baptism", a project that was selected and presented at Asian Film Market, Busan International Film Festival 2017.

Filmography

Feature:

Big Father, Small Father and Other Stories
(Assistant to Producer)

Bi, don't be afraid (Assistant Director)

Short Film:

Lam (Producer)

Thread (Producer/Director)

Joon and Wendy – AFA, Busan international film festival (Producer)



Biography

JAY DO

Writer/Director

Jay was born in Moscow, Russia and came back to Hanoi, Vietnam from 5 years old, before moving to the South of Vietnam with family. In 3 years of studying at TAS, The international school of Saigon, Jay experienced theater arts, world theatre arts, before approaching the world of cinema with his first shortfilm “Melody”, a love story that has many followers and audience online, also won different awards from Film Festival in New York, as well as named as one of the promising directors of the festival. This contributed to Jay’s decision of studying abroad in Los Angeles for film and television.

Here in LA, Jay joined a project “The War Within”, funded by Santa Monica College, a war film project that aiming for top festivals of US and Canada. During the time working on the project, Jay feels the need to tell cultural story of his country, heartfell story that not only educate the young generation, but to introduce part of his country’s history to the world.

“À La Carte” is the passion project that Jay hoping to show the world how strong were Vietnamese back in the day during war time.

Filmography

Melody (Writer, Director)

Anthem to the Rain (Writer, Director)

The War Within (Unit Production Manager)

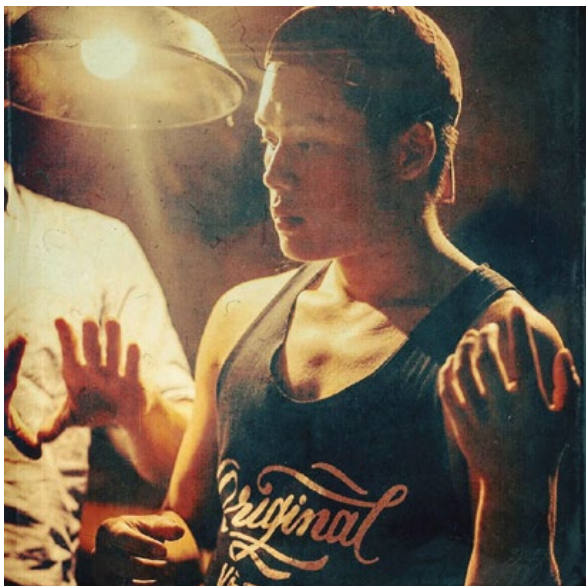


BOB NGUYEN Cinematographer

Bob Nguyen is an accredited member of Australian Cinematographer’s Society.

He has always had a great passion for moving images. Bob attended Swinburne University in 2008. During his years at Swinburne, Bob had the opportunity to learn from many great cinematographers, especially Ellery Ryan ACS, who sparked Bob’s interests in cinematography.

After shooting his first project on super 16mm. Bob soon realized the originality of shooting in film is far more satisfying. He said: “When I saw the prints for the first time, I saw magic, and I told myself I would not stop.”



Bob Nguyen began working as a professional Director of Photography in 2011 when he shot his first feature film in Australia. A year later he moved to Los Angeles to pursue his dream of working with celluloid film. Having shot many projects on 35mm and 16mm films after the first few years in LA, Bob quickly became one of the young cinematographers versed and loyal to the original medium of motion picture in town. Bob also picked up a Master Degree in Cinematography and received a prize sponsored by Panavision LA for his 35mm feature film.

From 2015 on, Bob Nguyen have been shooting feature films exclusively and collaborating with directors from various backgrounds. Those projects had taken him to work internationally, especially Europe and Asia. After working on feature film in Thailand and Canada, It totally changed his mind-set and approach about creating pictures. Bob decided to take on an adventure

to explore new cultures and materials. In 2016 Bob Nguyen shot his first Vietnamese feature film 'Sut', followed by 'Song Lang' in 2018, which has received over 30 awards internationally.

Bob won Gold Award in the coveted Features Cinema category and also the Judges' Choice at the ACS Victoria Tasmania State awards in 2018.

He then went on to win the Golden Tripod and the prestigious Milli Award for

Cinematographer of the Year 2019 at the recent National Awards from Australia Cinematographer's Society.

Even though Bob Nguyen was trained to shoot on film, giving him a very solid foundation in the principles of cinematography but all flavors of format mediums appeal to him. Bob enjoys different visual mediums that best translate each story's unique concept. Having those experience allows him to work in an extensive range of shooting styles, scales and conditions.

Cast and Crew

Cast

QUYNH NGUYEN	Ngan
MINH PHUONG NGUYEN	Ngan's mother
JANICK	French General
THANG VU	Ngan's father

Executive Producers

TU NGUYEN
NAM ANH TRAN

Producers

TUAN DO
TU NGUYEN

Director of photography

BOB NGUYEN ACS

Production Designer

KELLY HOANG

Editors

JAY DO

Sound Designer

HUNG NGOC NGUYEN

First Assistant Director

NAM ANH TRAN

Production Co-ordinator

HUONG DUONG
SON HOANG

Script Supervisor

HUYEN TRAN

Camera Operator

MINH XUAN HOANG NGUYEN

Focus Puller

GANG NGUYEN

Clapper

TIEU DAO TU
DIT VAN THANH

Special Effects Make Up

LINH COI

Assistant Special Effects Make Up

PHUONG LE

Wardrobe

HUYEN THANH TRAN

Wardrobe Assistant

ANH DIEU NGUYEN

Art Director

MINH DUNG NGUYEN

Production Designer Assistant

VU TRAN

Construction Coordinator

NHIEN NHU NGUYEN

Behind The Scenes

VU XUAN DINH

Set Photographer

HIEP BUI

Gaffer

KIEN THANH NGUYEN

Specifications

<i>Film Type</i>	Short
<i>Genres</i>	Drama, Thriller
<i>Runtime</i>	5 minutes 34 seconds
<i>Completion Date</i>	March 9, 2020
<i>Country of Origin</i>	Viet Nam
<i>Country of Filming</i>	Viet Nam
<i>Film Language</i>	No Dialogue
<i>Shooting Format</i>	Digital
<i>Aspect Ratio</i>	13:9
<i>Film Color</i>	Color

Link for downloadable extra contents for press

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1lz9OpfpYK18-KVlbVgIPWFNpm_PiOXt5?usp=sharing

