



SEANCE OF THE PAST

a film by Adelaide Sherry

SYNOPSIS

A person spends most of their life mourning the things they have lost, unable to move on. They frequent a silent but helpful medium and embark on a spiritual journey where they linger among their past lives.

ABOUT THE FILM

City-scapes and liminal spaces are reimagined through transcendent and engulfing imagery, as a dreamy colour pallet brushes the night sky. Like a spiritual guide, this short whisks one on a hypnotising journey into intimate memories of life and loss. By combining visual and narrative poetry, the film leaves the audience to explore a nuanced take on the essence of remembering.



TECHNICAL INFO

2022, Singapore, 9 mins, Color

Aspect ratio: **1.55:1**

Formats available: **DCP, H.264**

Shooting format: **4K, digital**

Sound: **Stereo**

Original language: **English**

Produced by: **In Limbo Productions**

Contact for sales & other enquiries: **inlimbocompany@gmail.com**

INTERVIEW

WITH ADELAIDE SHERRY

About the director & cinematographer:

Adelaide Sherry is an Australian/Singaporean filmmaker based in Singapore and Melbourne. Her films favor surreal/avant-garde elements, which gel together to create impressionistic works. She's currently finishing her first feature.

What was the origin of the Seance of the Past?

A 3-minute version of the film was initially created for a two day film competition using minimal resources, with pre-production and production occurring within that period. Instead of trying to shoot a short film with a traditional narrative in such a short time frame, we opted to film an improvised mood piece. Be it the abandoned mall, nature, etc., we tried to capture the energy of the spaces we were in, and then translated that feeling and ambience into something more profound. That footage then laid the groundwork for the structure of the short, as we worked the narrative around what we had available.

The film was then improved and expanded into this complete version using the footage captured during that shoot.

The visuals of the short film were rather unique, what led to that look?

In trying to capture the feeling of forgotten spaces and distant memories, we decided to go with as grainy and filmic of a look as possible. However, shooting on a digital camera made this a lot harder. Digital film emulations never look exactly like 35mm, so we experimented with film emulations that still embraced a digital look, both in camera and in post-production. The colour palette and haziness were also tailored to create a vibrant yet distant atmosphere - similar to the way we remember moments in our lives.

Did any directors influence your filmmaking, and this film in specific?

For "Seance of the Past", there was a strong influence of Apichatpong's work when we were filming, simply because the nature of the work he creates and what we were trying to achieve during production were very similar.

For my filmmaking in general, there aren't any specific directors I take lots of influence from. Instead, it's more of a compilation of films, visual art, and music that impact me deeply and resonate with me. I dig around until I find something that feels right, then draw from there while making my films.

What formed your filmmaking style?

I grew up playing a lot of classical music, so my approach to filmmaking has always been rooted in a very music-like flow, as that was my first introduction to art. I've also always been drawn to vibrant, saturated colours and impressionistic art, both of which have bled into the films that I make. Shoegaze, dream-pop, and ambient music have informed the mood and style of my filmmaking too. A large part of my style also developed through years of experimentation and filming, which helped me navigate and understand which direction and style felt right to me as a filmmaker. Seance of the Past and my upcoming feature are some of those experiments.

CREDITS

CREW

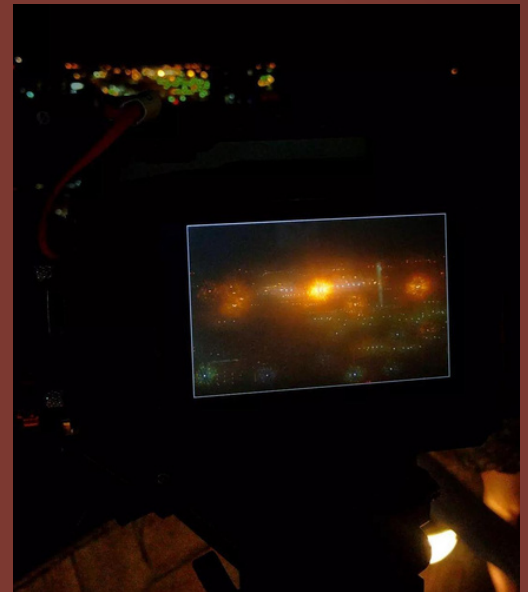
Directed, shot, and
edited by: ***Adelaide Sherry***

Written by: ***Adelaide Sherry***
Noah Grigoroff
Shea Chia En

Produced by: ***Shea Chia En***
Adelaide Sherry

Composer: ***Ralf Reuvers***

Art and poster: ***Jord Choo***



CAST

The Person: ***JX Soo***

The Mystic: ***Shea Chia En***

The Friend: ***Hamza Sheikh***

The Girl: ***Hailey Shim***

The Boy: ***Shawn Es-C***

The Bartender: ***Maxwell West***