



Journey of Noleos

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

A FILM BY QIYUE LIU & YICHUN LI



QIYUE LIU

DIRECTOR / SCREENWRITER / PRODUCER / EDITOR

+61 420371201

lynn813llu@gmail.com

YICHUN LI

DIRECTOR / SCREENWRITER / PRODUCER / EDITOR

+61 448751603


lyc2h6o@gmail.com

LOGLINE:

"Journey of Meteors" is a drama about Lyra's road trip to watch a meteor shower - but when she meets Leo, who wants to be suicidal, She's forced to re-examine the true purpose of this trip.

SYNOPSIS:

During the journey to the south, Lyra is threatened by the runaway boy Leo, who is holding a gun and wants to go to the same place. Along the way, Lyra discovers Leo's suicidal intentions and tries to alter his mindset. Through their time together, Lyra and Leo change their perspectives, and Leo also uncovers the true purpose of Lyra's journey. Ultimately, as Lyra decides to call the police and leave Leo behind to end his life alone, Leo becomes aware and intervenes. The two erupt into an argument, and just moments before the police arrive, Lyra compromises. She transports Leo to the viewpoint of the meteor, and they need to face their choices together.



TITLE: Journey of Meteors

Genre: Drama

Country: Australia

Production Year: 2023

Language: English

Duration: 19:55

Aspect Ratio: 2.35:1

Frame Rate: 25 fps

Shooting Format: SONY FX3

Exhibition Format: 4k DCP

Sound: 5.1, stereo



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In "Journey of Meteors", mutual understanding and redemption are the central themes of this film, exploring the themes of love and death. Before they meet each other, love, for different reasons, leads Lyra and Leo to decide on their final journey. When they cross paths, and their experiences and thoughts clash, love makes them contemplate each other's deaths and, in turn, reevaluate their existence.

When the idea for creating this work first emerged, Qiye and I aimed to explore depression-related topics and reconciliation with ourselves. Due to some personal experiences, I discovered an intriguing phenomenon: individuals often attempt to persuade those contemplating suicide to keep living, even when they are immersed in thoughts of suicide themselves. Yet, the language used in these persuasions often falls flat. In persuading, people typically express hopes and visions of the future that they can conceive of, inadvertently denying the pain of those suffering from depression. Unable to be understood by others and having their pain invalidated, such persuasion can be seen as a form of self-assurance for the persuader, potentially exacerbating the suffering of the person contemplating suicide.

Hence, I wanted to convey an alternative perspective: those immersed in thoughts of suicide often feel isolated and unsupported in this world. Perhaps they need not be repeatedly told how beautiful the world is, but someone who can genuinely acknowledge their pain. Acceptance doesn't require understanding; it may be precisely because understanding is elusive that acceptance becomes essential. If one cannot comprehend another's pain, at the very least, refrain from refuting it; instead, embrace their suffering. This led us to create this story. Our protagonist, Lyra, is someone who, in a state of despair, still wishes to instill hope in others. She and Leo, driven by different experiences, diverge at a critical moment, resulting in a collision. But only when they truly accept the reasons behind each other's desire to end their lives can they genuinely redeem one another and themselves, rather than simply offering false hope that the other still has a reason to live.

Yichun Li
Writer / Director / Editor



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"Journey of Meteors" is a very challenging film to produce, requiring extensive location scouting, proficiency in car-mounted and aerial filming techniques, and shooting the night scene during daytime.

During the initial creative phase, Yichun and I share the idea of making a road movie. After determining the rough story background, I create the character Lyra and give her a backstory. Her thoughts encompass many of my reflections on life and death. I believe the meaning of life is connection, and we find purpose in our actions because of love. The purest love in life must come from parents, giving us the courage to act without reservation, while romantic love becomes the most perplexing aspect of our lives. This leads to Lyra having a reason to seek death and her internal struggles. Yichun, on the other hand, creates a character opposite to mine, which is quite interesting. We get stuck on the most crucial argument scene for a while, and eventually have a real argument, record it, and exchange different perspectives on life. We condense 40 minutes of content into a five-minute version. The biggest change in the script is how the two characters meet. Originally, it's out of Lyra's compassion, but we feel she wouldn't act that way. So I suddenly think, why not have the young man carry a gun, create a direct conflict, and then slowly resolve the misunderstanding? This makes the transition in their relationship feel more natural.

The pre-production phase is very challenging. We visit Kiama three times, even going as far as Canberra once. Finding shooting locations is what I consider my most successful accomplishment, even though some locations can't be realized. Apart from this, we also have to identify open stretches of road suitable for aerial shots. We have to drive between Kiama and Sydney to search for convenient shooting spots. We meet many kind-hearted people during this process.

In terms of filming, our reference films are "Nomadland" and the Netflix series "The End of the Fing World." Interestingly, when creating the shot list and searching for lighting references, we find that the character portrayals can be somewhat contrasting. Lyra has more of the loneliness and romance seen in "Nomadland," while Leo embodies the teenage rebellion and inherent innocence from "The End of the Fing World." However, I prefer a tone with dramatic conflict, which is evident in all my works, so the final product leans more towards a fairy tale with intensity. The on-site lighting is also chosen accordingly. I like a lot of backlight and emotional shots for Lyra, while Leo is more of a sunlit young man with fervor and naivety deep within him, giving his scenes higher contrast and drama. But in the parking lot scene, we use artificial streetlights and taillights to isolate Lyra. This is her first raw display of her inner self, requiring a strong sense of visual dramatic conflict.

In conclusion, We face many challenges, but we ultimately overcome them. This is a film I love and am very proud of as my graduation work during my student years. I want to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who helps us. Thank you for joining our romantic adventure.

Qiyue Liu
Writer / Director / Editor



KEY CREW BIOS

QIYUE LIU DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER / EDITOR

Qiyue Liu is an emerging screenwriter and director from China, driven by her passion for filmmaking to pursue further education. She is currently pursuing a master's degree at the University of Sydney.

During her undergraduate studies, she conducted research related to women's psychology, a focus she continues to explore in her postgraduate years. She possesses exceptional skills in both screenwriting and on-set directing, demonstrating a keen aesthetic sense for lighting and visuals. She adeptly combines her theoretical knowledge with her perspective and understanding as a woman, creating work that breaks conventional norms within the realm of women-centric cinema.

In her works, one can always perceive the core of romance and freedom amidst the rebellious drama, reflecting her rich appreciation for the nuanced conflict. With substantial experience in the advertising field, she has collaborated with numerous well-known brands such as Aesop, New Balance, Ray-Ban, and won significant bids, showcasing a high level of professionalism in planning and on-site execution. Currently, she is dedicated to directing narrative films from a female perspective.

YICHUN LI DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER / EDITOR

Yichun Li is an emerging filmmaker and director from China. After completing her undergraduate studies in screenwriting and directing, she studied film at the University of Sydney.

Due to personal experiences, her work often focuses on human spirituality. Her undergraduate and graduate films all have backgrounds related to human psychology, and she specializes in exploring the amplification of specific human emotions connecting stories by studying the origins and consequences of emotions. Her undergraduate film, 'The Witness,' was awarded the Outstanding Graduation Project award at the university.

She has vital pre-production and on-set skills and was invited to work on more than ten sound projects.

ZHOUYE ZHU PRODUCER / EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Zhouye Zhu is a filmmaker from China. After finishing the double bachelor's degrees in media and communications and English at the University of Sydney, she continues to pursue filmmaking under Master of Moving Image at the Sydney College of Arts, University of Sydney. Her creative conduct includes filmmaking, screenwriting, and promotional content production.

She produced the short film Journey of Meteors in 2023. In 2022, The film exhibition project USYD Thera-Films 2022, in which she acted as the co-curator and media coordinator, enlarged the impact of the outstanding works of Moving Image students.

As an Honorary Consultant of the Sydney University Chinese Students and Scholars Association (SUCSA), she supports the organization's publicity conduct and alumni community development. In 2023, she produced SUCSA 24 Hours, a documentary film highlighting the growth and significance of SUCSA and shed light on the broader impact of the Chinese student community at USYD.

In China, she co-wrote scripts and acted as assistant director for several Chinese short films, most of which centre around the local culture and traditional aesthetics in her hometown.



CAST BIOS



BECKY WALKER LYRA

Becky Walker is a British-Australian screen actress, born in the UK, based in Sydney. Her passion for acting has developed over the last two years, as another creative outlet to bring authentic characters to life (the first being creative writing). She loves delving deep into internal monologues and displaying the nuances of her character's lives on screen.

She is very proud to have joined the production of seven short films over the last three months which are now hitting the film festival circuit. Outside of acting, Becky's hobbies mostly involve sport from being out on the waves, scuba diving under them, hitting balls on the golf course or swinging a tennis racket around.

KAIEN HSU LEO

Kevin Kai-En Hsu is a student from University of New South Wales studying Media Arts. Moving from Taiwan to Australia, he started to participate multiple film project as the crew member. He was the second assistant camera in *She is Real* (2023) and the director in a student film remake project of *Burning* (2018). Nevertheless, having some acting experience in a young age, he is keen to try acting as well.



HOD BIOS



HANQI ZHANG

Hank Zhang is a cinematographer from China, now based in Sydney, who picked up his camera during the 2019 pandemic. At the most precarious time, a sense of responsibility for the sake of society was born in his heart. He is good at shooting socialist themes, using stories and cameras to record social injustice and suffering, evoking silent and mournful emotions.

In 2022, he came to Sydney to start a postgraduate program in film. His broadened horizons allowed him to stop limiting himself to socialist cinema, and he began experimenting with different film genres and subjects, working with actors from other countries and nationalities, and improving his film skills outside of school.

Through coursework and teaching from different fields, he has become more knowledgeable about cinematography, has a unique aesthetic and style that he explores in various projects, and is good at telling stories with lighting and highlighting different characters.

After completing the Master of Moving Image program, he plans to incorporate programming techniques into filmmaking to create more creative and experimental projects.



NICK KAPRUZIAK

Nicholas Kapruziak is a Sydney-based electroacoustic composer-performer who specialises in writing for big band and orchestra, while exploring the world of electronic production and sound design.

Throughout his upbringing Kapruziak was exposed to a multitude of creative worlds; a cross pollination of Australian jazz, American minimalism, soul and ambient music. This multifaceted creative output alongside Kapruziak's experience across audio-visual media, motivates him to explore new creative avenues with an aesthetic and story-telling focus.



CREDITS

CREW

Director: Qiyue Liu & Yichun Li
Producer: Emma Zhu, Qiyue Liu & Yichun Li
Screenwriter: Qiyue Liu & Yichun Li
Director of Photography: Hanqi Zhang
Gaffer: Jiatong Zhao
Production Designer: Keyara Huang
Editor: Qiyue Liu & Yichun Li
Sound Designer: Qiyue Liu & Yichun Li
Colorist: Manyi Zhang
Compositor: Yicong Qiu
Denoise Effector: Yuxuan Qi

21st - 22nd Oct:

Producer: Emma Zhu
Production Assistant: Keyara Huang
Director of Photography: Hanqi Zhang
Assistant Camera: Xianze Yao
Gaffer: Jiatong Zhao
Best Boy: Qi Wang
Sound Recordist: Hannah Kong & Qige Kang
& Yihan Li
Clapper-Loader: Jingye Xu
Still Photographer: Keyara Huang
Driver: Ming Deng

27th Oct:

Director of Photography: Ruizhong Draco Bao
Assistant Camera: Zhuoqian Wu
Gaffer: Yanzhuo Cui
Grip: Chengxuan Wang
Sound Recordist: Sida Wang
Property Assistant: Jingye Xu
Clapper-Loader: Jingye Xu

28th - 29th Oct:

Line Producer: Qi Wang
Director of Photography: Hanqi Zhang
B Cam: Ruizhong Draco Bao
Gaffer: Jiatong Zhao
Best Boy: Damien Yu
Aerial photographer: Damien Yu
Sound Recordist: Yichun Li
Property Assistant: Yue Sherry Shi
Clapper-Loader: Tiange Bernice Sun
Still Photographer: Yue Sherry Shi

KEY CREW

WRITEN by Qiyue Liu & Yichun Li

DIRECTED by Qiyue Liu & Yichun Li

PRODUCED by Zhouye Zhu & Qiyue Liu
& Yichun Li

CAST

LYRA Becky Walker
LEO Kaien Hsu

THANKS TO

Anna Broinowski
George-Alex Nagle
Virginia Hilyard

Ocean Farm
St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas
Park
Anchor Bay Motel
Golf Place Inn

QIYUE LIU
DIRECTOR / SCREENWRITER / PRODUCER / EDITOR
+61 420371201
lynn813liu@gmail.com

YICHUN LI
DIRECTOR / SCREENWRITER / PRODUCER / EDITOR
+61 448751603
lyc2h6o@gmail.com

<https://filmfreeway.com/JourneyofMeteors>