

Faces of Hong Kong: New Short Documentary Films

Curated by Tammy Cheung (張虹)

Presented by Chris Berry (KCL Film Studies) in association with Visible Record (Hong Kong)

Time: 6.30 p.m., Wednesday 20 March

Venue: Nash Lecture Theatre (K2.31), King's College London, Strand, WC2R 2LS

Free, and open to members of the public

To secure access, members of the public must register at Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/faces-of-hong-kong-new-short-documentary-films-tickets-58642228484>

Selected by Tammy Cheung, each film portrays a different face of Hong Kong. While those from the offshore islands (*The Girl, Walking on Water*) long for a new and better place to set foot, the city dwellers (*Granny, 32+4*) are cramped with their families and their pasts. Watch four young talents provide four sophisticated visions of ordinary life in Hong Kong.

1. *The Girl* (Cherry Huang, Hong Kong / 2017 / 11 min, in Cantonese and Putonghua with Chinese & Eng subtitles)

16-year-old Ka Lam, who grew up in Cheung Chau, is a fan of K-Pop idols and dancing. Hustling between school, work and dancing, she hopes to “leap” out of the island one day. **Cherry Huang** graduated from Zhejiang University of Media and Communications. Her works include *On My Way, All About the Love, Loner* and *I came from XinJiang*.

2. *Granny* (Lam Siu Ling, Chan Wen Yan & Yeung Mei Yuk, Hong Kong / 2018 / 12 min, in Cantonese with Chinese & English subtitles)

After being hospitalized for a month just before Lunar New Year, a 94-year-old grandma makes a surprising recovery. Birth, aging, sickness and death are inescapable parts of life, so how can we embrace them? **Lam Siu Ling, Chan Man Tin & Yeung Mei Yuk** joined Jockey Club Film Bridge Project in 2018 and to learn making documentary videos. *Granny* is their first documentary.

3. *Walking on Water* (Eunice Ng, Hong Kong / 2017 / 14 min, in Cantonese with Chinese & English subtitles)

Three mainland fishermen live and work on a Cheung Chau fishing boat. Restricted by law, they can never go ashore. Fisherman Sai Seng has worked on the boat for over a decade with the hope of bringing stability to his family. **Eunice Ng** is currently a freelance journalist.

4. *32+4* (Chan Hau Chun, Hong Kong / 2014 / 32 min, in Cantonese and Chaozhou dialect with Chinese & English subtitles)

The director spent her childhood living apart from her family and knew very little about its history. This changed when she graduated from college and decided to face her parents with her camera in a search for answers to questions about her past. **Chan Hau Chun** graduated from City University of Hong Kong. Her documentary works include *32+4, Uncle Fai, Brother Key, No Song to Sing* and *Call Me Mrs. Chan*. *32+4* was awarded the Principal Prize at the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen.

We hope to have a Skype discussion with Eunice Ng and Lam Siu Ling after the screening.

/PTO

Curator – Tammy Cheung

Tammy Cheung is a Hong Kong documentary filmmaker and the founder of Chinese Documentary Festival. In 1999, she made her first documentary film, *Invisible Women*, which follows the lives of three Indian women in Hong Kong. Her works include *Election, July, Rice Distribution* and *Secondary School*, etc.

In the past decade, Cheung has been working towards promoting documentary culture in Hong Kong.

Visible Record

In 2004, with other like-minded individuals from the fields of film, culture and education, Tammy Cheung founded **Visible Record**, which is a non-profit organisation that advocates for the art and culture of documentary film.

Master Class Training Camp

Besides film production and distribution, Visible Record also organises film screenings, seminars, training courses, and the annual Master Class Training Camp to nurture documentary film talents. Since 2013, it started inviting experienced directors from Hong Kong, China and Taiwan to be instructors and provide training to young filmmakers. Tammy Cheung selected three outstanding course works, *The Girl, Granny* and *Walking on Water* for this screening.

Hong Kong International Documentary Festival

In 2008, Visible Record founded the annual Chinese Documentary Festival in Hong Kong. It is the world's first annual film festival to focus on Pan-Chinese documentaries and is an important exchange platform for Pan-Chinese filmmakers. Many young talents made their debut on the festival, Chan Hau Chun's *32+4*, for example, shown her fierce intelligence in using her camera to confront her family, as a search for answers to questions about her past.

This year, the festival will be renamed as Hong Kong International Documentary Festival (HKIDF), to present a broader scope of documentaries to the audience.