

**Hong Kong Snapshots: Shorts & Experimental  
Films  
Invisible City (CTBA)**

Sun 1 Nov  
16:30

Curator introduction by Teresa Kwong

The second of two programmes exploring the socio-cultural space of postcolonial Hong Kong. This screening features Rita Hui Nga Shu's *Invisible City*, a selection of shorts by Anson Mak including *A Wishing Well Under the Not a Big Blue Sky*, and *Goodbye*, Poon Yick-sum's *Still* and Tsang Tsui Shan's *The Live and Times of Ho Chung Village*.

**Invisible City (Wall)**



**DIRECTOR**  
Hui Nga Shu, Rita

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**  
Hong Kong

**YEAR OF PRODUCTION**  
1998

**DURATION**  
11 mins

In 1994 Hui Nga Shu, Rita graduated from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Art with a Diploma in Film & TV, continuing in 1996 to complete her advanced Diploma in Film & TV majoring in editing. She is a young talented director with work such as *Ah Ming* gaining her wide attention and awards at the Hong Kong Independent Short Film & Video Awards.

In 1998 her work *She Makes Me Wanna Die* and *Invisible City (Wall)* all won the Sliver Award in the Hong Kong Independent Short Film & Video Award. *Invisible City* concerns extracting memories from physical structures. Rita embodies the concept of things happening under this fixed structure; the relationship of the wall to the city, memories, and their history.

In this next year, her work *Alice in the Wonderland* will show in the Hong Kong Arts Centre as part of the *Independent Yours* programme. Other work has included theatrical performances such as, *Tango of Water Sleeves* and *Beautiful Project*, and dance videos including *Chionanthus Retusus*. Her first set up video installation *XX* has been showing in Macau's Old Ladies House of Feminine Art. Rita is currently studying an MFA in the Hong Kong Art School with RMIT University.

## A Wishing Well Under the Not a Big Blue Sky



**DIRECTOR**  
Anson Mak

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**  
USA

**YEAR OF PRODUCTION**  
2005

**DURATION**  
6 mins

Anson Mak Hoi Shan was born in Hong Kong. Not only is she a film and video artist, but she also practices in writing and photography. Her work has featured in festivals worldwide and enabled her to travel, for a short time taking her to the U.S. Whilst living in LA, Mak found frequent irony in her day-to-day life. Suffering from panic attacks driving on the frequently chaotic roads and highways Mak opted instead to commute via train and metro. She began to shoot landscapes from the train, reworking them at a later date with soundscapes taken from a wishing well in China Town.

*A Wishing Well Under the Not a Big Blue Sky*, aims to de-stereotype Californian life. The wishing well carries so many deep wishes and desires of individuals, calling for reflections of the audience's innermost thoughts.

At present Mak is studying at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, spending her time researching and teaching in community centres and universities in Hong Kong.

## Goodbye



**DIRECTOR**  
Anson Mak

**LANGUAGE**  
In Cantonese without subtitles

**YEAR OF PRODUCTION**  
2006

**DURATION**  
8 mins

**MUSIC**  
Fcan Hung A

Huge regeneration plans have commenced in Hong Kong, the city is now in danger of losing local history with the increased loss in space.

Mak presents the idea of a tragic loss; the historical Star Ferry Pier in the Central area of Hong Kong Island being demolished. Along with the poetic lyrics and beautiful music of Fan Hung A, Mak hopes to render a platform to raise related questions on disappearance of cityscapes.

The major cast of this music video is Victoria Harbour. It is an icon for Hong Kong that needs to be redefined from reflections from personal histories, to grand history.

### Still

Poon Yick Sum is an award making filmmaker, her credits listing winning the Golden Horse Award for Best Art Direction and Costume Design.

**DIRECTOR**  
Poon Yick-sum

**LANGUAGE**  
In Cantonese with English subtitles

**YEAR OF PRODUCTION**  
2003

**DURATION**  
20 mins

*Still* was produced in the spring of 2003 in Hong Kong, in the run up to the outbreak of the virus SARS. It focuses on a woman living in Hong Kong during this outbreak. On the surface nothing appears to be wrong and nobody feels life is any different, but there is underlying tension, she cannot see it, or is willing to see it, but it is there. She can feel it in the surrounding streets and buildings and begins to act strangely, drinking polluted sea-water, burning her money.

*Still* is a fearful representation of what might have become of many people's lives, and the continuous fear that remains inside many Hong Kong residents.

### The Life and Times of Ho Chung Village 河上風光



**DIRECTOR**  
Jessey Tsang Tsui Shan

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**  
Hong Kong

**YEAR OF PRODUCTION**  
2009

**DURATION**  
14 mins

Tsang Tsui Shan's film *The Life and Times of Hung Cho Village* comprises of a collection of old photographs of her family in Hung Cho Village. The pictures from the past travel through time, allowing the audience to experience the flow of memories, settling before their eyes. The film is a journey of time, change and essentially of memories.

The director represents the changing faces of her city and how its fate is cursed by redevelopment plans. Disfigured beyond recognition, Ho Chung River was one of the victims of expansion work; incorporated in a project which acts as an occasional overflow, a river that has seen five hundred years of history of local villages, and nourished the lives of its inhabitants during that time. *The Life and Times of Ho Chung Village* is the first of a series of river-related films as part of a project that started last year, the first in the series exploring new media forms whilst documenting village life of her hometown in Sai Kung.

# CORNERHOUSE

## ARTFILMBOOKSFOODDRINK

Tsang Tsui Shan's first narrative short *Lonely Planet* won awards at the Hong Kong Independent Short Film & Video Awards in 2004, her work consistently fuses fictional structures with real people's true stories. A year later she gained her Masters of Fine Art in Media Design and Technology from City University Hong Kong. She has recently finished her second narrative short *Où est la sortie?* and her first feature *Lovers on the Road*, which won the best drama award in the 8<sup>th</sup> South Taiwan Film Festival.