

Hong Kong Snapshots: Shorts & Experimental  
Films  
Où est la sortie? (12A)

Sat 31 October  
14:00

A programme of three films by *Visible Secrets* directors. This screening features Heiward Mak's *Lovers' Lover*, *Où est la sortie?* by Tsang Tsui Shan and Yan Yan Mak's *Scarlet Robe*

Lover's Lover



**DIRECTOR**  
Mak Hei Yan, Heiward

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**  
Hong Kong

**LANGUAGE**  
In Cantonese with English  
Subtitles

**YEAR OF PRODUCTION**  
2007

**DURATION**  
35 mins

Heiward Mak was born in Hong Kong in 1984. She graduated with a Diploma in Design Studies from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2003. Following on in 2006, she directed and co-wrote the screenplay for *Men Suddenly in Black 2*, before graduating from the City University of Hong Kong with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Creative Media in the same year.

Her graduation assignment and her first short film, *Lovers' Lover*, received the Golden Award in the Open Category of the 12<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Independent Short Film & Video Awards (IFVA). Success with this film continued, taking it to Hanover International Film Festival, the 14<sup>th</sup> Women Make Waves Film Festival in Taiwan, and also the New Asia Film Festival in Vancouver.

*Lover's Lover* is an exploration of relationships, not only the "him" and "her", but also the latter consequences. Mak explores the chain reaction of lost and found love, how one relationship can evolve into another, and how any unlikely individual can end up involved in another's situation.

Mak has become increasingly influential in the Hong Kong film scene since *Lover's Lover* with her 2008 directorial feature debut film *Winds of September* – the Hong Kong Chapter, *High Noon* achieving the Recommended Movie Award in the 15<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Film Critics Society Awards, and achieving additional accolade worldwide in Vancouver, San Francisco and Seoul. Her greatest and most recent achievement has been her nomination for Best New Director in the 2009 Hong Kong Film Awards.

## Où est la sortie?



**DIRECTOR**

Jessey Tsang Tsui Shan

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**

Hong Kong

**Language**

In Cantonese, French,  
Mandarin

**YEAR OF PRODUCTION**

2007

**DURATION**

60 mins

Tsang Tsui Shan earned a Master's in Media Design and Technology from City University of Hong Kong in 2005. Her first narrative short *Lonely Planet* won the Silver Award at the Hong Kong Independent Short Film & Video Awards (IFVA) in 2004.

Exploring new media forms by using interactive video clips, Tsang Tsui Shan's first online film *All About My Ho Chung* documented village life of her hometown in Sai Kung. Her work consistently fuses fictional structures with real people's true stories. *Où est la sortie?* was her second short film which she produced in 2007 before her first feature *Lovers on the Road* which she completed in 2008, which won her the *best drama* award at the 8<sup>th</sup> South Taiwan Film Festival.

*Où est la sortie?* is a story developed from Zheng, the lead actresses' blog (aka Fenghong), and focuses on different people from foreign cities drifting in the same city. Tsang did not want to solely tell the story of a Chinese woman's life in Paris, but instead she wanted to discover the consequences of chance encounters between people all with their own travelling purposes.

For someone from Hong Kong, Tsang believes Paris represents romance, but what are the expectations of a girl from mainland China, or from another distant location? Travelling from one city to another, everyone is searching for something. This film explores these chance encounters and contemplates otherness in a distant land.

## Scarlet Robe 大紅袍



**DIRECTOR**  
Mak Yuen-Yan

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**  
Hong Kong

**Language**  
In Cantonese with English subtitles

**YEAR OF PRODUCTION**  
2007

Scarlet Robe is a story about a Mother and her Daughter. The Daughter has always looked up to her Mother, a famed Cantonese opera "belle" performer. Many a performance, the young Daughter would look on stage in awe, as she watched her Mother in a dazzling display of confidence. The Daughter's greatest hope is to be well-received and liked by her Mother, both in life, and on stage. For her Mother, her greatest wish is that her Daughter will excel her, these high expectations forcing the young girl to meet those standards, and consequently pushing their relationship to its limits. The film was awarded 'Best Drama' in 2007's Big Screen Festival.

Yuen-Yan Mak was born in Hong Kong, graduating from 'The Academy for Performing Arts' in Hong Kong 1998 before establishing her own production company, 'Dragonfly J Productions' (a.k.a Lotus Film).

Mak has won numerous awards, her first feature *Gege* (Brother) has won her the Fipresci Award in the 25<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film Festival, the Poveglia Award in the 58<sup>th</sup> Venice Film Festival in 2001, the Woosuk Award in Jeonju International Film Festival in 2002, the Ecumenical Jury Prize in the Bratislava International Film Festival in 2001, and awards in the Fribourg International Film Festival in 2002.

She completed her second feature *Butterfly* (Hudie) in 2004. The film has been selected at Venice International Film Festival, the Hong Kong Gay & Lesbian Film and Video Festival and Creteil International Women's Film Festival in France. Like Yuen-Yan's previous work, *Butterfly* has received numerous nominations including the Hong Kong Film Award and the Taiwan Golden Horse Award in 2005. Yuen-Yan's project *August Story* which premiered at Tokyo International Film Festival 2006 was awarded 'Best Drama' in South Taiwan Film Festival.

From 2005 onwards, Yuen-Yan started collaborating with Hong Kong singer HOCC as her music video producer. In 2008 they produced a feature length documentary for a charity, *The Decameron*. This film which focuses upon 'madness', contributed to later developing ideas of the same subject matter including, 'Happiness is Free', a concert documentary in 2009. Yuen-Yan's currently working on producing a new feature which will be completed in spring 2010.