



PRODUCE AID SUO
FESTIVAL OF FILM & ENTERTAINMENT
TAIPEI

MUMU (希夷幻境)

Taiwan/China
Taipei PAS workshop 2017

Main data

Category: Romance/Fantasy/Ethical fiction
Lenght : 100/110'
Language : Chinese
Shooting Format : 4K
Shooting location : Northwest of China (Qing Hai & Gan Su Province)
Shooting dates : July 2018
Expected dates of completion Jan.2019
Stage of production : development stage

Production

Budget : € 610 000 Financing
in place : € 60 000
Workshops and pla[orms attended : --
Current situation : Development stage, seeking for partners

Producer bio



Patrick Mao Huang studied in American Film Institute and Columbia University Graduate Film School. He founded production and distribution company Flash Forward Entertainment in 2002. Being praised for his diversity and distinguished eyes to spot new talents, Huang's producing credits include feature films *The Road to Mandalay*, *Ice Poison*, *Poor Folk*, *return to Burma*, animation *A Fish with a Smile* and TV series *Amour et Patisserie*. His films have been selected by festivals worldwide including Venice, Berlinale, Toronto, Busan, Rotterdam, Tribeca, Nantes, Shanghai, Edinburgh, Hong Kong, Taipei Golden Horse Film Festivals, and won numerous awards. He was also commissioned to act as the inaugural programmer for Kaohsiung and Taoyuan Film Festival. *An impossibly small object*, a Taiwan/The Netherlands co-production directed by David Verbeek, is currently in post-production. Huang is also a celebrated film distributor in Taiwan.

Director bio



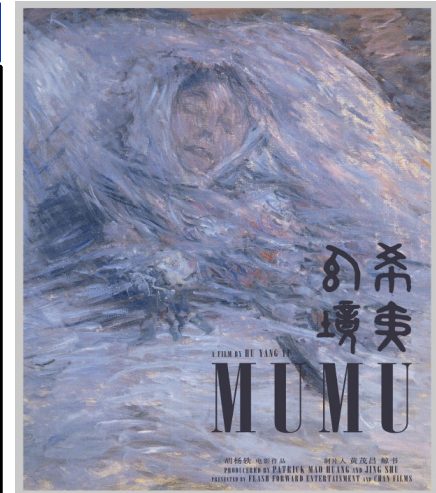
Hu Yang-Yi, a young Chinese film writer, director and independent painter. He was graduated from the London Film School in 2016. He studied Visual Communication Design in the Art College of Renmin University of China. He was born in Beijing in 1990. He had studied painting when he was a child. When he exchanged to National Taiwan University of Arts, he began to make film. In 2011, he was selected into the film *The Flowers Of War* directed by Zhang Yi-Mou to be an actor. His films always focus on the alienation of modern society and spiritual world of human beings, which have won and been selected into several film festivals. He also writes poetry and short novels in his spare time.

Contacts

Producer
Patrick Mao Huang
(Flash Forward Entertainment)
patrickmaohuang@qq.com

In coproduction with
Jing Shu (Chan Films)

Director
Yang-Yi Hu
2218938958@qq.com



Synopsis

Mumu, a girl who does not like socialising with the others, lives in a small farming village with her family in the Northwest China. The severe drought cracked the earth, and the family's livelihood totally depends on their tomato field. Recently, Mumu has been seeing Yuan, a worker sent by the factory in town to collect tomatoes from the villagers. Today, they make love for the last time in the tomato field since Yuan is leaving for work in a big city. In order to cheer Mumu up, he tells her a joke – the donkeys have the biggest penises in the world! Moreover, he promises that he will transform into a donkey and come back to her. After Yuan has left, the factory rejects their tomatoes as a result of the poor quality. Uncle Zhu, Mumu's father, blames Yuan for being irresponsible and forces Mumu to meet the men they set her up with. Heartbroken, Mumu keeps waiting for her lover. Auntie Zhu, Mumu's mother, cannot bear to see her daughter suffering like this and asks the pastor to convince Mumu that God will save her. However, they fail to make Mumu feel better. One day, Mumu runs into a donkey near a mysterious spring; feeling doubt[ul], she brings the donkey home. When Mumu's parents force the donkey to plough the field, it refuses, and it listens to Mumu only. Facing the hostility around her, Mumu finds warmth solely from the donkey, and that makes her believe that her boyfriend has come back as a donkey. Her behaviour inevitably subjects herself to ridicule in the village. Nonetheless, she obstinately ignores her family's opposition and moves into the shed to live with the donkey; late at night, she masturbates in front of the donkey. When the news of Yuan getting married in the city arrives in the village, Mumu takes it so badly that she abandons the donkey in the mountains, but it miraculously finds its way back. Finally, Mumu has got over with Yuan and falls wholeheartedly in love with the donkey. Meanwhile, struggling to make ends meet, Mumu's parents secretly sell the donkey to a butcher.

Director's statement

"This is a fable. It happens in an isolated village that suffers from severe drought. A young woman living there falls in love with a donkey. The feelings that Mumu, the protagonist, has for the donkey are complicated and deep, and they have evolved in a gradual process. At first, it is a joke that her boyfriend tells her, and even when the donkey does appear, she doesn't necessarily believe that her boyfriend has come back in the form of a donkey. However, later her family forces her to go on blind dates and the factory keeps rejecting their tomatoes and then her faith is being tested... The donkey not only seems able to feel the pressure Mumu suffers from the outside and the emotional turmoil in her heart but also shows understanding and tolerance. Eventually, Mumu is convinced that the donkey is her boyfriend, and she wants to follow her will. Nevertheless, what comes next is the news of her boyfriend's betrayal, and therefore the illusion that the donkey is her boyfriend is shattered. She then has to put up with her lover's unfaithfulness, her family's intolerance and the villagers' jeering, and even her beloved land has let her down. (...)"