



PRODUIRE AU SUD  
FESTIVAL DES 3 CONTINENTS  
ROSEES

# RAINING ROSES

## 緋雨的季節 / Rosas sa Tag-Ulan

### Taiwan/The Philippines

**Category :** Drama / Coming-of-age

**Length :** 90'

**Language :** Mandarin/ Warray (filipino dialect) / English

**Shooting format :** HD 4K Digital/ Color

**Shooting location :** Kaohsiung (Taiwan), Palo, Leyte (The Philippines)

**Shooting dates :** January 2017

**Stage of production :** Development stage

**Expected date of completion :** October 2017

**Budget :** 350.000 €

**Financing in place :** 30,000 EUR

**Workshops or markets attended :** —

**Current situation :** Seeking for European coproducer, international sales agent.



### JOSEPH ISRAEL LABAN – PRODUCER (One Big Fight Productions)

Joseph Israel Laban is an award-winning Tagalog filmmaker born and raised in Boac, Marinduque, The Philippines. He obtained his master's degree in documentary filmmaking at the New York University where is a recipient of the NYU Graduate School for the Arts and Sciences Scholarship and a Fulbright Scholarship. He was a Fellow of the DocNet Producer's Strategy Workshop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2013. Last February, he attended the Berlinale Talents at the Berlin International Film Festival. He directed, wrote and produced two films for Cinemalaya: Cuchera and Nuwebe, which have been screened in numerous international film festivals He is the Founder and Festival Director of Cine Totoo, the biggest documentary film festival in the Philippines. He recently curated the Philippine edition of ChopShots Documentary Film Festival for the Goethe-Institut.

### RINA B. TSOU – DIRECTOR

Born in 1988, Rina's father is Taiwanese and mother is Filipina. Her interracial background immersed her in East and Southeast Asian Cultures and sprung visions towards her filmmaking. She graduated from Motion Picture Department of National Taiwan University of Arts in 2013. Rina's short debut "Guai Wu" was screened and won in festivals like Landshuter Kurzfilmfestival. Her most noted short "Chicharon" had a World Premiere in The International Film Festival of the Art of Cinematography CAMERIMAGE, and won awards including Best Performance in Directing of Golden Harvest Awards for Outstanding Short Films. Half a year later, Rina launched documentary *Warray Warray (Rising from Haiyan)*, a project finalist in the 2014 New Taipei City Doc Awards. It is her first attempt to filmmaking in her second homeland, The Philippines. In 2015, Rina was selected to take part in Berlinale Talents and the coming Locarno Filmmakers Academy. She is currently developing co-production projects with the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Malaysia.



### SYNOPSIS

Taiwanese college boy JIANG (21) is at loss about his future, swamped with fruitless interviews, part-time job, and taking care of his separated parents. Filipina adolescent CHRISTNA (12) survives a massive typhoon, but struggles in poverty with her family and yearns the taste of first love. They meet in a Taiwanese NGO volunteer program to Christna's village, where Christna falls in love with Jiang at first sight. However, Jiang is already in love with CHING (24), an English-major graduate student also among the volunteers. She does not care for Jiang at all. The love triangle shifts course as the volunteers get further involved in the village. Will Christna get the attention of her prince Jiang? Will Jiang ever win over Ching's heart? In the end, what will Jiang find out about his future?

### DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT (extract)

« The concept "Coming-of-age" has been lingering on my mind ever since graduating from college almost two years ago, a concept broadly experienced, from college graduates to teenagers entering puberty, and to those going through life's major changes.

In the seemingly wealthy Taiwan, the young are experiencing anxiety over the downgrading economy and our own uncertain future. Intriguingly, international volunteering or travelling has become a popular way for us to search for one's purpose.

I want to tell a love story about two people of totally different backgrounds, be it age, gender, race, language, culture, or financial status, meeting in a crossroad moment of life, experiencing a similar journey of coming-of-age: beginning with the search of hope and meaning, a promising encounter, a harsh taste of reality, and the confirmation of one's self, all within the thriving tropical background of a Philippine island and Taiwan across the sea..»

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