



TILL THE CAVE FILLS

Vietnam

2019 Nantes Produire au Sud

MAIN DATA

Category: Drama

Length : 100'

Language : Vietnamese

Shooting location : Vietnam

Shooting dates : September-October 2022

Expected date of completion : June 2023

PRODUCTION

Budget : 435 000 €

Financing in place : 48 000 €

Production company : ever rolling films

Workshops and platforms attended : Southeast Asian Film Lab 2018, SEAFIC 2019

Current situation : development stage, seeking for partners

NGUYEN LE Hang, producer

Nguyen Le Hang is a founding member of the production company Ever Rolling Films. Her work with the company includes *Roommate*, which won the Special Jury Award at HANIFF Project Market 2016 and screened at BFI Flare Film Festival 2019. She also produced *Wedding*, a short film in co-production with Germany. Nguyen Le Hang is now in development on *Till the Cave Fills*, which participated in South East Asian Film Lab 2018 and SEAFIC 2019. She was selected to Docs by the Sea 2019 with the documentary *Fly On Dust*. She is now in pre-production on a Japanese/Vietnamese Feature film titled *Decision*.



Josh LEVY, producer

Josh Levy is the co-founder and CEO of ever rolling films, a Hanoi-based production house. With previous experience in production roles at Disney and FOX, Josh relocated to Vietnam in 2012. Josh's first project as producer is the short film *Roommate* that won the Jury Prize at HANIFF 2016's Project Market and Best Young Director for Short films at HANIFF 2018. Josh Levy is working on the post-production for *Fly On Dust* a feature-length documentary while developing *ever rolling films'* first feature-length narrative film: *Till The Cave Fills*. The project has attended Autumn Meeting Arthouse Pitch, SGIFF Southeast Asian Film Lab 2018, SEAFIC and Produire au Sud in 2019.



NGUYEN LE HOANG Viet, director

Nguyen Le Hoang Viet is a Vietnamese filmmaker whose short film *The Cat And The Orange Seeds* garnered acclaim at Short Shorts Film Festival among others. His latest short, *Roommate*, was screened at BFI Flare London and awarded Best Director at Hanoi International Film Festival 2018. He is an alumnus of Film Leaders Incubator (FLY), Autumn Meeting and others. His debut feature project *Till the Cave Fills* was selected for the Southeast Asian Fiction Lab (SEAFIC) 2019 and is currently in development. Nguyen Le Hoang Viet is also a co-founder of Ever Rolling Films - a Hanoi-based production company created in 2016.



SYNOPSIS

In contemporary Vietnam, Thao is an imaginative teacher married into a traditional family. She has an unfulfilled interest in sketching. Her husband Minh, a busy financial investor, and his parents are waiting for her to give birth to a son to continue the family lineage, but Thao has a sudden miscarriage. Depressed by her family's apathy and coldness, Thao flees from the city to a village surrounded by pristine wilderness and primal caves. While seeking inspiration for her sketches, she finds herself strongly attracted to Van - a mysterious, lonely cave-trekker with an inscrutable charm. Thao convinces Van to accompany her in the exploration of a cave, not knowing this will lead to a once-in-a-lifetime experience: discovering a hidden cave and unleashing their inner desires. Minh suddenly shows up, looking for Thao. Torn between responsibility and desire, Thao decides to escape from both and find her own life.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

« Ever since I was a child, I had been told the myth of our primal ancestors - the story of the AU CO Mother who gave birth to one hundred eggs and hatched one hundred sons. I have always been fascinated with this goddess-like woman in a field of eggs. It provokes in me complex feelings, I was both scared and amazed whenever I visualize the story in my mind. Growing up, I realize these myths and legends impose the sole maternal role onto women over and over again. But I want to understand more about other power and responsibilities that women carry. I want to explore it in a contemporary context: What do modern-day women think about pregnancy and childbirth? How do modern-day women treat prejudice and traditional values? What do they dream to create - other than those traditional ideas of "incubating the descendants"?

From the start of the project, I have collaborated with a female creative producer who resonates with the character Thao in many ways. She shares the perspective of a woman who grew up in a similar environment and could relate to Thao's personal struggle. I realize the journey to develop this film is also my journey to listen and understand more about the perspective of modern women and about what they want in life. This process allows me to tell this story with a multi-dimensional perspective and to connect the mythical elements in culture and nature with the reality I am living in. »

CONTACTS

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