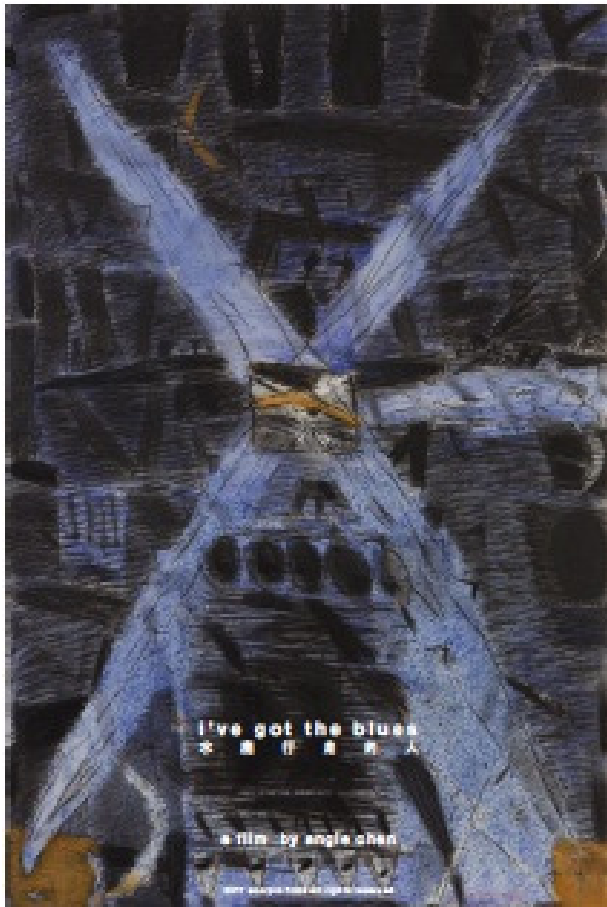


WIP E - I've Got The Blues



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN : Hong Kong

GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME: Documentary | HD | English, Cantonese | 90 mins

DIRECTOR :

Angelina CHEN

PRODUCERS :

Angelina CHEN
Pamela LAY

WIP GOALS :

Funds, Sales agents, Festival Screening

PRODUCTION COST :

US\$150,000

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY :

2012 *One Tree Three Lives*

2008 *This Darling Life*

1988 *Chaos By Design*

1985 *My Name Ain't Suzie*

1983 *Maybe It's Love*

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

In the interaction of Hong Kong painter Wong Yan-kwai and the film director, sparks and arguments, egos and humility, love and betrayal, and human complexities surface.

SYNOPSIS

Wong Yan-kwai is a complex man.

The film follows and reveals him in his essence, in his element.

In his interaction with the director, we discover unexpected elements of this character, and what it is like to “tango” with an artist who may be difficult and lives in a box of his choosing.

Sparks and arguments, egos and humility, love and betrayal, all surface.

This is a film about human complexity, doubts, love, hate, uncertainty, poverty, and talent. What makes this person the way he is? Does a person need nobility of the soul to be a great artist? Artists are often portrayed as self-centered, if not extremely selfish. Someone said of the musician Ginger Baker, “you can be thoroughly unpleasant, egocentric and still be a brilliant artist.” The actions of artists – painters and writers and musicians alike – are often excused because of their otherworldly creative talent. Are these stereotypes?

Is the artist driven by intuition, following some kind of plan; or is he suddenly led by some kind of divine inspiration? Is this a story about a long-lost daughter searching for her father? Is this about walking his mother to an old age home one afternoon, which later became a scene in Ann Hui’s film, *Summer Snow*?

Is this a story about hurt and love and misunderstanding among old friends and lovers? Is this about a father letting go of his son to pursue something that he believes will bring about poverty in life?

This film will attempt to unravel some of these mysteries.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I relish telling moving stories through documentaries.

Wong Yan-kwai says, “I’m a born painter, so I paint.” He’s curious about everything, passionate about creativity, the arts, and people. If my previous documentaries are about love, I can see his deep love for what he does.

Through him - a painter, writer, musician, photographer, art director - we will engage on another journey of discovery. It might be a film about love, about persistence, about betrayal, about obstinacy, about ego. I remember his famous line: “When you are used to poverty, you don’t feel poor. I am in touch with my basic instincts, and I respect and follow it. That’s why I’m happy.”

Hong Kong is known to be about money. I have sought to bring the vibrant underground art scene to the forefront, to introduce “Yank” and his friends, to make this film not only about Yank, but also about Hong Kong and its people. Wim Wender brought Cuban music to the world in the *Buena Vista Social Club*, so let’s bring Hong Kong’s artists to the world.

DIRECTOR

Angelina CHEN

Chen has been making films since 1979. She was born in Shanghai, brought up in Hong Kong and Taiwan, received her BA and MA from the University of Iowa, MFA from UCLA, and lived in America for over more than a decade. She now resides in Hong Kong, working in the industry as director/producer, and teaches part-time in the Film Academy's MFA Program at Baptist University. She is a member of the Hong Kong Film Director's Guild and was its committee board member 2012; a consultant with the Hong Kong Arts Development Council 2016; juror for the Hong Kong International Film Festival Documentary Competition 2013; tutor for Operation Greenlight with Create Hong Kong 2016 & 2017.

Her first short *Der Besuch* (aka *The Visit*, 1980) as writer/director has been critically acclaimed and honored internationally. It was a film about her dying father in Germany, from whom she had been separated for seventeen years.

After making three movie features in the eighties, she entered the commercial film business in the nineties. Recently she has made a comeback to feature filmmaking and directed two feature-length documentaries: *This Darling Life* (2008) was nominated the Best Documentary at the Taiwan Golden Horse Awards 2008; *One Tree Three Lives* (2012) garnered the Film Merit Award at the Hong Kong Film Critics Society Awards 2013.

I've Got the Blues is a new work in progress.

PRODUCERS

Angelina CHEN (also director)

Pamela LAY

Pamela Lay was born and grew up in Hong Kong, received her Higher Diploma in Graphics and Communications Design from Swire School of Design, the Hong Kong Polytechnic. She has over 30 years working experience in Styling, Art Direction, Trend Prediction, Creative Marketing and Film Production. She has worked in Hong Kong, Toronto, New York and Paris.

Her first film was co-producing *This Darling Life* (2008), nominated the Best Documentary at the Taipei Golden Horse Awards 2008; followed by *One Tree Three Lives* (2012), which world premiered in 2012 at the Hong Kong International Film Festival, toured to the Taipei Film Festival, the Landlocked Film Festival (USA), the Asia Society (New York), the Corner House (Manchester UK) ; in 2013, the Singapore Chinese Film Festival, Confucius Institute (New Zealand), and the Women's Film Festival (Beijing, China).

PRODUCTION COMPANY

Scorpio Films Company

Scorpio Films was founded in 1990 by Angelina Chen. It is a film production house producing television commercials, TV public announcement ads, documentary and corporate films mainly for the Asian Pacific regions.

Documentaries: *I've Got the Blues* is in production; *One Tree Three Lives* (2012) garnered the Film Merit Award at the Hong Kong Film Critics Society Awards 2013, the Best Film and Best Director categories at the Chinese Film Media Awards 2013. *This Darling Life* (2008) was nominated the Best Documentary at the Taipei Golden Horse Awards 2008, and the Most Inspiring Film at the Ming Pao Arts Awards.