

# WIP I -The White Girl



**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN :**Hong Kong

**GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:**Drama | HD | Cantonese | 90mins

**DIRECTORS :**

Christopher DOYLE  
Jenny SUEN

**PRODUCERS :**

Ken HUI  
Jenny SUEN  
Leonard TEE

**WIPGOALS :**

Funds, Sales agents, Pre-sales, Festival Screening

**PRODUCTION COST :**

US\$1,300,000

## DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY :

2015 *Hong Kong Trilogy: Pre-schooled Preoccupied Preposterous*

2009 *Warsaw Dark*

1999 *Away With Words*

## ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

A tropical noir fairytale about three outcasts who find their voices: an artist, a street kid, and a girl who is allergic to the sun.

## SYNOPSIS

A typhoon is coming. Pearl Village is fogged in, quiet before the storm. A bridge to nowhere looms in the distance. TheWhiteGirl is allergic to the sun, with skin so white that the villagers treat her like a ghost. Her only friend is street kid HoZai, who dreams of striking it rich with useless machines and an oyster farm that refuses to grow pearls. They meet Sakamoto, a mysterious artist who is running away from a life of fame and fortune to the nearby Ruins.

Sakamoto sees TheWhiteGirl singing by the sea caves. No one has ever looked at her in that way before. The energy that they share pushes them to find their voice.

HoZai follows a group of Chinese tourists as they enter the off-limits Village Council. He discovers that the Village Chief plans to sell out his land and his people to them in order to enrich himself. They are property developers, not tourists, intent on turning Pearl Village into their next goldmine.

TheWhiteGirl confronts her father: he wanted to shelter her from the outside world; she is not allergic to the sun after all. She runs away to the sea and feels the sun on her skin for the first time.

Sakamoto moves on, asking crazy questions to which there are no answers: if nothing truly exists, then where does this idea come from?

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The White Girl can't step out into the light. She's so white that the people of Pearl Village call her a ghost. She lives in a place where fishermen live on the sea because they are forbidden to own land, where a girl has no room to call her own.

Up at the Ruins, she finds a space to breathe and grow. She meets someone who sees her for who she wants to become. She starts to look at the world differently.

When the Ruins is about to be set on fire to make way for luxury developments, The White Girl saves it by staking her ground. She realizes she is not a ghost. She has a voice, and she has something to say.

So do we.

This film is our journey to find a new voice in Hong Kong cinema. Why doesn't The White Girl have a name? She's who we all are when we dare to become ourselves.

## DIRECTORS

### Christopher DOYLE

Legendary cinematographer Doyle has made over a 100 films in the last 40 years in Hong Kong, China, and worldwide. His 60 award wins and 30 nominations include the Grand Technical Prize at the Cannes Film Festival for *In the Mood for Love* (2000) and the Osellod'Oro at the Venice Film Festival for *Ashes of Time* (1994).

### Jenny SUEN

Suen is a filmmaker, born and raised in Hong Kong. Her first feature, *Hong Kong Trilogy*, was made in collaboration with Christopher Doyle. She graduated summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and was named Dean's Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania, where she received her B.A. and M.A. in Comparative Literature, Political Science, and East Asian Languages and Civilization.

## PRODUCERS

### Ken HUI

An independent documentary and feature film producer. He produced the documentaries *My Way* (dir. Cheuk Cheung, 2012), and *Fish Story* (dir. Wong Siu-Pong, 2013). The feature films he has produced are *Bends* (dir. Flora Lau, 2013) which premiered in Un Certain Regard at the Cannes Film Festival, and *Hong Kong Trilogy* (dir. Christopher Doyle, 2015).

**Jenny SUEN** (also director)

### Leonard TEE

Tee established the Malaysian office of Tsai Ming-Liang's Homegreen Films in 2006 and was co-producer for Tsai's *I Don't Want To Sleep Alone* (2006) and later *It's a Dream* (2007). In 2008, he produced Tsai's short film, *Madame Butterfly* (2009). In 2012, he also produced *The New Village* (2012), the first Malaysia epic Chinese film and is actively involved in the Malaysian movie scene.

## PRODUCTION COMPANY

### Pica Pica Media Limited

Founded in 2008, our goal is to unite with different filmmakers to create local films and videos. We work in all stages of the filmmaking process in different media such as films, documentaries, commercials, and music videos. We wish to gather and connect the creative energies across the fresh blood and professional filmmakers to produce high quality and stunning works.