

WIP J Hello! Tapir



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Taiwan

GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME: Animated Feature, Drama | Digital Format | Mandarin | 95 mins

DIRECTOR:

Kethsvin CHEE

PRODUCER:

CHEN Chi-Yuan

Mark CHEN

HAF GOALS:

Funds, Pre-sales, Festival Screening

BUDGET:

US\$ 2,600,000

SECURED BUDGET:

US\$1,950,000

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

2015 *The Cage*

2014 *The Game 2 (TV Feature)*

2013 *Lucky Bowl 1 & 2 (TV Feature)*

2011 *Happy Family (TV Feature)*

2010 *The Superb Match Makers (TV Feature)*

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

8-year-old Ah Keat sets off in search of the mythical nightmare-eating creature in the forest, hoping it will bring his father back to life.

SYNOPSIS

In a fishing village, a creature lives with the body of a pig, the nose of an elephant, ears of a horse, and feet like a rhinoceros. Every night as people lay in slumber, it sneaks into the village and devours their nightmares! Ah Keat's father has always recounted the story of when he came across the mythical creature in the forest when he was a child. He is doubtful about the story but has always looked forward to the day when he can see the creature for himself. One day, Ah Keat's father dies in an accident at sea. Ah Keat's grandmother and long-estranged mother are so busy with planning the funeral that they are unable to help Ah Keat with understanding his father's death. When Ah Keat learns of the sudden news that he will be leaving the village to live with his mother in Taipei, he sets off in search of the mythical creature in hopes that it can help him find his father...

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Everyone gets hurt, and when they do, they hide away from people, especially when it comes to feelings. Hence I love the therapeutic effect of the fantasy world. When I lost my father 3 years ago, everyone asked me to cheer up and not dwell on things we cannot control. But the fact is my dad has left me! Later, I realized that time is necessary for your surroundings to heal you. Just like the child who meets the baby tapir after his father's passing: whenever he feels sad, the tapirs will be there for him. Even though the father may never return, the baby tapirs are the best memories he has left for the little boy.

The movie will be shot with handheld cameras to create a sense of disorientation between the mother and child. The POV of the child will also be included to bring out the feeling of curiosity and imagination. In line with the loneliness and sadness of the initial situation, the color palette will be greyish. When the relationship between the mother and the child improves and they rebuild the village after the storm, where it will take on brighter shades.

DIRECTOR

Kethsvin CHEE

Kethsvin Chee, a Malaysia-born director, started producing, directing and writing scripts for tele-movies, sitcoms, reality shows and TVC in 2006. His first telemovie, *Superb Match Makers* (2010), won the Best Festive Award at 2012 Golden Awards. His next telemovie, *Lucky Bowl 1& 2* (2013) has participated in the 19th Shanghai Television Awards. In 2014, his co-directed *The Game 2* was nominated as the Best Telemovie in Spain's Zoom Festive and won him a Best Director nomination. He was also nominated for Best New Director and Best Editing in 25th Festival Film Malaysia for *The Cage* (2015)

PRODUCER

CHEN Chi-Yuan

Chen Chi-Yuan, a Taiwan producer, has produced more than 50 films and dramas in Taiwan and China. He actively develops Taiwan film opportunities in Asia. *More Than Blue* (2018) is Chen's most recent film, making more than TWD 200million at the Taiwan box office and ranking #1 at the Taiwan box office in 2018.

Mark CHEN

Mark Chen is a film and TV drama producer and screenwriter. He has produced numerous films and dramas and received recognition from Taipei Golden Horse Awards, Busan International Film Festival and Berlin Film Festival for works such as *Love After Time* (2016) and *White Ant* (2016).

PRODUCTION COMPANY

mm2 Entertainment Co., Ltd

mm2 entertainment is a leading media entertainment company with regional offices in Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing. mm2 provides services over the entire filmmaking process from financing to production and distribution. Lately, mm2 films have received global critical acclaim: *Shuttle Life* (2017) won Best Film, Best Cinematography and Best Actor at the 20th Shanghai International Film Festival; Nina Paw was nominated for Best Actress at the 36th Hong Kong Film Awards for her movie *Show Me Your Love* (2016); and *Guang* (2018) won Best Director and Best New Actor at the 13th Chinese Youth Generation Film Forum in China.