

**WIP B      Being Mortal**



**REGION:** China

**GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:**

Documentary | Digital Format | Mandarin, Cantonese | 90mins

**DIRECTOR:**

LUO Shuai

**PRODUCER:**

LUO Shuai

**HAF GOALS:**

Funds

**BUDGET:** US\$ 214,285

**SECURED BUDGET:** US\$ 71,428

**DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY**

First Feature Director

**ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS**

The documentary tells the stories of hospice care volunteers who keep thinking about life and death while they accompany the patients.

## SYNOPSIS

How will you accompany your lovers and friends when they are in their terminal period in life? The documentary tells the stories of hospice care volunteers. Jiang Wenyong feels deep sorrow since he did not provide companionship for his father when his father was dying. His mother suffers from Alzheimer's disease, but he also faces issues in his marriage. Huang Manxi, an entrepreneur, cannot work anymore because of his father's death. Xu Manxiu, age 81, began her hospice care service to solve her family problem. Feng Xuexia faces a career dilemma at the moment... And Kuang Shengli, director of the hospice care volunteer organization, graduated from Tsinghua University and went to Singapore for his doctor's degree. He, finally chose hospice care as his career, but is facing new challenges from the changes of the volunteer organization. They keep thinking about life and death while they spend time with the patients.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A few years ago, I kept company with my mother when she got sick and died. At that moment I did not know how to provide companionship well and how to say a formal farewell. I felt regretful about that. Three years ago, I joined the hospice care volunteers. I found that many people did not know about hospice care and hospice companionship, so I made the decision to make a documentary. In China people do not like to talk about death, because it is "unlucky"; that is why life and death education is so inadequate. Hopefully the documentary will get people's attention and give them some ideas about the topic. During the process of shooting, the volunteer organization was also changing: asking how to make a good NGO? I am facing the dilemma of the change as well.

## DIRECTOR

### LUO Shuai

Luo Shuai, graduated from Communication University of China, and earned an MA with distinction from the University of Stirling, United Kingdom. She is a documentary director and producer. Her documentary, *Soccer Player* (2015) won the Jury Prize in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Guangzhou Short Documentary Competition; *Being Mortal* won Pitching Session of the 2019 Guangzhou International Documentary Film Festival.

## PRODUCER

### LUO Shuai

(same as director)

## **PRODUCTION COMPANY**

### **Guangzhou Zhitianxiao Culture Co., Ltd.**

Guangzhou Zhitianxiao Culture Co., Ltd. was founded in 2011 as a professional video production company. The company has co-operated with many documentary production companies.