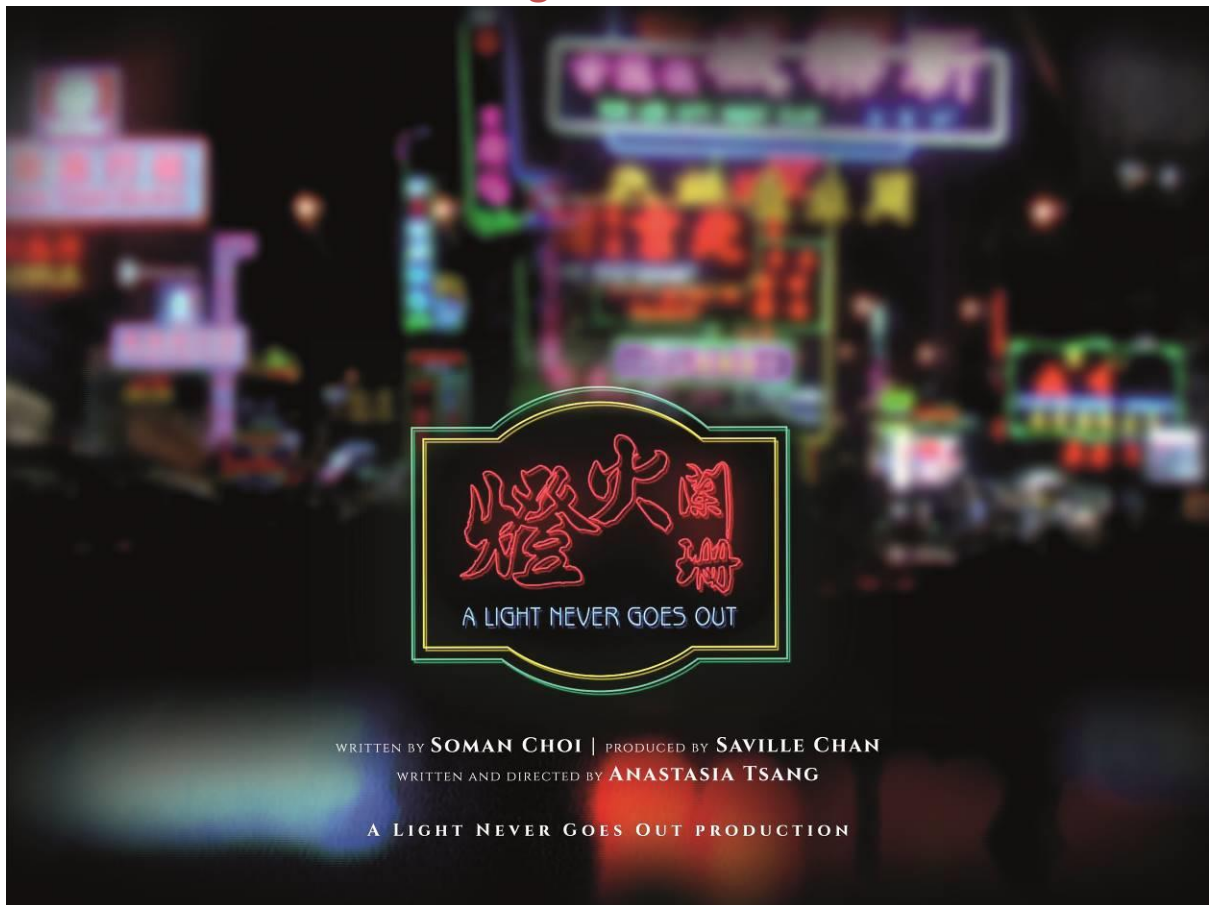# WIP K   A Light Never Goes Out

COUNTRY/REGION: Hong Kong
GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:
Drama | Digital Format | Cantonese | 100mins

DIRECTOR:
Anastasia TSANG
PRODUCER:
Saville CHAN

WIP GOALS:
Sales agents, Pre-sales

TOTAL BUDGET: US$740,384
SECURED BUDGET: US$705,128

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY
First Feature Director

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

Accomplishing her late husband's wish of remaking a mysterious neon sign, a depressed middle-aged widow and the neon signmaker's protégé discover surprises and bitterness amidst the city's vanishing glow.

SYNOPSIS

Middle-aged widow Mei-heung has gone through countless sleepless nights since the death of her husband, Bill. One day, she finds a key among the items that Bill left behind, leading her to his secret neon workshop and his young apprentice, Leo. She learns from Leo that Bill had an unfulfilled last wish–to recreate a demolished legendary neon sign. With Leo's help, Mei-heung tries to uncover the story behind the sign and learns the craft of blowing neon lights in hopes of fulfilling her deceased husband's last wish with her own hands. Along the way, Mei-heung reminisces about her beautiful encounters with Bill and unearths pieces of Bill's past as if they are the last consolation left by him. Meanwhile, Mei-heung's daughter, Prism, plans to leave Hong Kong with her fiancé, but she is unable to break the news to Mei-heung.

As clues of the legendary neon sign gradually emerge, the secrets that Mei-heung couldn't face are about to be revealed...

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"Wife" and "mother" are two identities that summarise the fate of millions of women. When these two identities come to an end, what remains for the rest of their lives? Maternal love is often highly praised, yet women who have contributed most of their lives to the family can only face the pain and loneliness of widowhood when their partners pass away and their children leave the nest...

Widowhood is ultimately about loss. Like a widow, Hong Kong has been in a state of loss in recent years. Hong Kong's blooming neon lights have always been an icon of its economic prosperity. They lined the city's streets during the economic boom of the 1980's, lighting up a "Pearl of the Orient" that enchanted the whole world. As an iconic imagery of Hong Kong, neon lights represented the city's most prosperous era, and its fading glow seems like a metaphor of the city's fate. Like Hongkongers who tend to hang on to the good old days, the widow in the film desperately wants to retrieve her husband's past. Even when it seems to be futilely stubborn, sometimes we need to insist in order to exist.

DIRECTOR

Anastasia TSANG

A graduate of the Film Department of Sorbonne University, Tsang is a writer-director. Her first short film *Marriage Sans Frontières* (2011), which explored transgender issues, participated in Cannes Short Film Corner and won Best Short Film at Seattle Translation Short Film Festival. Her surreal short film *Marryland (*2015) screened at Udine Far East Film Festival. She co-directed TV series *Till Death Do Us Part* (2018), which portrayed complexities of married life. In 2019, she won the Professional Group award of Create Hong Kong's First Feature Film Initiative with *A Light Never Goes Out*. Filming was completed in Winter 2020.

PRODUCER

Saville CHAN

A Hong Kong film producer, screenwriter and lyricist. He produced and wrote *The Way We Dance* (2013), Hong Kong Film Awards nominee for Best Film, and *She Remembers, He Forgets* (2015), Hong Kong Film Awards nominee for Best Screenplay. As a lyricist, he also won three Hong Kong Film Awards for Best Original Film Song. Another film produced by him, Adam Wong's *The Way We Keep on Dancin*g (2020), will be released in 2021.

PRODUCTION COMPANY

A Light Never Goes Out Ltd.

A Light Never Goes Out Ltd. was formed under the requirement of Create Hong Kong's First Feature Film Initiative to handle the production of the film *A Light Never Goes Out*.