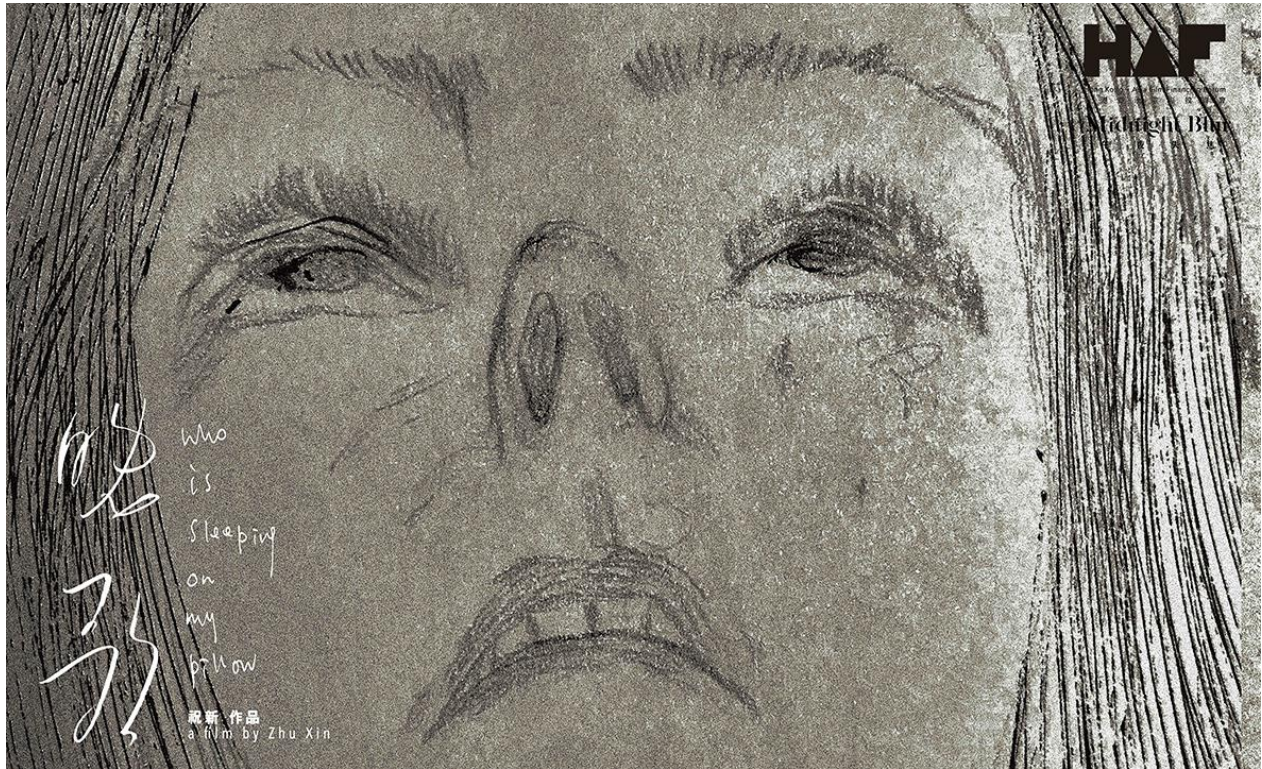


## HAF 21 Who is Sleeping on My Pillow?



**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** China

**GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:** Drama, Romance | Digital Format | Mandarin | 120 mins

**DIRECTOR:**

ZHU Xin

**PRODUCER:**

ZHANG Lu

ZHAO Jin

CAO Liuying

**HAF GOALS:**

Funds, Co-producers, Sales agents, Pre-sales

**BUDGET:**

US\$ 1,500,000

**SECURED BUDGET:**

US\$ 280,000

**DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY**

2018 *Vanishing Days*

## ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

Singer Lin Wan returned to Xinshi for a concert, reminding her driver, Kang, of the mysteriously disappeared painter Lu Qi. Through Lu's painting, he discovers their endless waiting.

## SYNOPSIS

In 2006, singer Lin Wan returned to Xinshi, a small town in northern China, to hold a concert. A rumor has surfaced that she came back to find the ghost of Lu Qi, a disappeared painter. It reminded her driver, Kang, of an unsolved mystery that happened at a party at the villa of his boss, Ma Yuan, deep in the mountains. A few years earlier, Lu Qi had come to paint a portrait of Ma Yuan. When the portrait was unveiled at the party, the chandelier in the villa fell and Lu Qi suddenly disappeared into thin air. Kang was ordered to search for Lu Qi, and he met a woman, Kong, who was then travelling around the world. Attracted by Kong's voice, Kang went to a southern town by himself to attend a wedding, lost in the Century Park full of puzzles.

Through the only landscape painting of Lu Qi, Kang discovered a buried secret related to Chinese geography and Lu Qi's endless waiting. He thus started to draw the outline of love and friendship of Lin Wan, Ma Yuan and Lu Qi.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

This is a story about a meeting gone awry. People often think what is missed is missed forever, but I saw the possibility of rejoining the missed connection, to remedy the wound in space. I understood that film can do this when I shot my first feature, *Vanishing Days*. The modern reformation of the city has destroyed my personal way of remembering space. Landmarks had disappeared, and I could not find my way. This feels like having an appointment, but being unable to find the way to the destination. I was anxious and fretful, like the lovers in this story.

M. C. Escher's paintings are characterized by mysterious contradictions, showing perfectly disjointed parts in a very romantic way. Some of his paintings remind me of what I saw in Northwestern China, where surprisingly, my memories of South flooded into my mind. So, I want to make a film in which Southern and Northern China are intertwined, linked by a great waterfall want to reconnect the memories and illusion, just as in Escher's landscape paintings. There are many travel-worn and miserable people in past Chinese films; however, I often think there must be something light and sweet that they commonly share.

## DIRECTOR

### ZHU Xin

Zhu Xin, born in June 1996, graduated from China Academy of Art. His first feature, *Vanishing Days* (2018) has been selected to the Forum section at Berlin Film Festival in 2019, and New Currents competition at Busan International Film Festival in 2018.

## **PRODUCER**

### **ZHANG Lu**

Zhang Lu is a third-generation ethnic Korean born in Yanbian, China in 1962. His feature films – *Tang Poetry* (2003), *Grain in Ear* (2005), *Dooman River* (2011) and *Gyeongju* (2014) – have been selected in various international film festivals such as Cannes, Berlin, Locarno and Busan.

### **ZHAO Jin, CAO Liuying**

Co-founders and producers from MIDNIGHT BLUR FILMS and partners in PARALLAX FILMS international sales. Their projects include *Vanishing Days* (Berlin, 2019), *Three Adventures of Brooke* (Venice, 2018), *I've Got a Little Problem* (Busan, 2017), *Life Imitation* (BFI London, 2017) and international sales of *Girls Always Happy* (Berlin, 2018), *The Fragile House* (Locarno, 2018) and others.

## **PRODUCTION COMPANY**

### **MIDNIGHT BLUR FILMS**

MIDNIGHT BLUR FILMS is a film production and service brand that is devoted to developing and producing films with international vision and idiosyncratic style, both commercial and arthouse. Striving to integrate all segments of the global film industry, MIDNIGHT BLUR FILMS also has two subsidiaries: an international sales and film festivals PR company, PARALLAX FILMS, and a new media brand, DEEP FOCUS. The company has agents in Paris, New York, Hong Kong and Tokyo and its business covers all major film markets and festivals worldwide.