

HAF 19 Happy Journey and Last Will



REGION: China

GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:

Drama, Family | Digital Format | Mandarin, English | 100mins

DIRECTOR:

DAI Xiaolu

PRODUCER:

HE Bin

HAF GOALS:

Funds, Co-producers

BUDGET: US\$ 1,668,000

SECURED BUDGET: US\$ 1,342,080

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

First Feature Director

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

A farewell trip brings together a traveler and her parents.

SYNOPSIS

Xiao Lu is an avid traveller in her early thirties who spends much of her time overseas. After learning that she has metastatic breast cancer, she decides to invite her parents on a journey, which might be her last one. The family reunites for only four days; along with trivialities between

tears and laughter, they do not really get along well. Yet, they become closer to each other. When the family trip comes to an end, Xiao Lu's father suddenly dies of a heart attack. Her mother becomes the only person she will say goodbye to.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I am the "black sheep" in my family, often taking a backpack and toothbrush on the road, leave without saying goodbye. When my own physical problems emerged, the relationship with my family began to change. By writing the play, I was privileged to observe my family, including myself, from every angle. In *Happy Journey and Last Will*, it is death that binds a family together, but in the end we could leave with love. Farewell always comes unexpectedly; yet we try to record a traveler's perception of life through film.

DIRECTOR

DAI Xiaolu

Dai Xiaolu was born in December 1984, in Shanghai and graduated from Directing Department of the Beijing Film Academy in 2007. She worked as assistant director in the documentary film *I Wish I Knew* (2009), which was selected for the Cannes Film Festival. In 2017, she worked as an assistant director in Song Fang's new film, *The Calming*. After graduation, she travelled a great deal and likes to volunteer in China and overseas. In addition, she has made television programs for a living. Her screenplay, *Happy Journey and Last Will*, was selected by the FIRST International Film Festival project market and won awards.

PRODUCER

HE Bin

He Bin graduated from the sound department of the Beijing Film Academy in 2007, working on film music composing, film sound design, and stage drama sound design. In 2015, he shifted to producing, and produced his first feature, *The Crossing*, in 2018. The film was widely acclaimed at several international film festivals and was released on 15 March 2019. He is an excellent professional producer who has more than ten years of experience in the industry.

PRODUCTION COMPANY

Ngorongoro Pictures (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

An independent production company consisting of producers, directors, screenwriters, and photographers. The films produced are fresh and offer new attitudes!