

## HAF 31 When Youth Departs



**REGION:** Hong Kong

**GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:**  
Drama | Digital Format | Cantonese | 100mins

**DIRECTOR:**

Derek CHIU Sung-kee

**PRODUCER:**

Derek CHIU Sung-kee

**HAF GOALS:**

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

**BUDGET:** US\$ 1,290,000

**DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY**

2018 *No.1 Chung Ying Street*

2010 *The Road Less Traveled*

2000 *Comeuppance*

1996 *The Log*

1994 *Mr. Sardine*

**ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS**

Six realistic yet absurd modern tales of 20 young people who are doomed to face an existential crisis and bear witness to the loss and loneliness of their generation in changing times.

## SYNOPSIS

In a black-and-white world, a mysterious man on a rooftop imagines himself as a seagull and turns his flying dream into poetry, writing down the verses.

The music of *Love Is Everywhere* rises. Free-spirited Wing is smoking grass in the toilet cubicle, with her headphones on. She enters a fantasy world, which begins to turn from black and white to colour. Locked up in a prison cell, Lok quietly recites a poem from a letter. Jiang Ling is standing outside a local café with her luggage, staring at the sign “No mainland Chinese allowed”. Hong Kong-born Ali of South Asian descent quickly drives past on a food delivery motorbike. Female tattooist Sun is making a seagull tattoo on her thigh. When she opens the door for the food delivery, her flatmate Oppa hurriedly knocks Ali off and drops a bag of grass out of his own pocket...

Wing comes out of the toilet and walks into a prison, which is the film set of graduation piece *My Last Freedom*. The director stares at the black-and-white freeze frame, but he is preoccupied with his mother’s immigration plan. He needs to make up his mind whether he would stay or leave...

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Little did we know that 2020 would usher in a big era of change for Hong Kong and the four digits of this unique year would never be forgotten due to the global pandemic. 2020 also belongs to Hong Kong’s young people who are not intimidated to speak out. Their fight for freedom is shaping up the big era.

Their passion is also mine. Following 20 young people in their 20s, *When Youth Departs* is about their hope and fear, their love and hate, and their truth and lies. Their stories set in this politically charged city are worth telling.

## DIRECTOR

### Derek CHIU Sung-kee

Derek Chiu has directed 18 films including *No.1 Chung Ying Street*, winner of Grand Prix (Osaka Asian Film Festival) and best feature film (South Taiwan Film Festival). Derek studied Foreign Languages and Literatures at National Taiwan University and started his career in TV in the 1980s and 1990s. He is currently a professor of practice at the Academy of Film of the Baptist University in Hong Kong.

## PRODUCER

### Derek CHIU Sung-kee

(same as director)

## **PRODUCTION COMPANY**

### **Boundary Film Production Limited**

Boundary Film Production is a Hong Kong-based production company established in 2018 by producer-director Derek Chiu. It aims to produce locally-flavoured projects that explore local issues and focuses on Hong Kong's society and its people. The company is named after the historical boundary stones erected in 1903 to define the city's boundaries, some of which are still in their original locations as witnesses to the changing times of Hong Kong.