

HAF 20 Hit the Wall



COUNTRY / REGION: Hong Kong

GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:

Comedy | Digital Format | Cantonese | 100mins

DIRECTOR:

HO Ching-yi

PRODUCER:

MAK Ho-pong

HAF GOALS:

Funds

TOTAL BUDGET: US\$478,760

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

First Feature Director

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

A man in mid-life crisis sees his grumpy elderly mother in a new light when he helps her train to run a marathon.

SYNOPSIS

After numerous failures in life, Ted finds himself in a mid-life crisis. With nothing left to his name, Ted is forced to live with his elderly mother, Hung, for the first time in over 20 years. When the bull-headed Hung decides to run a marathon in spite of her doctor's opposition, Ted feels obliged to train with her.

In his youth, Ted couldn't wait to get away from his mother. However, he now sees his mother's training as a safe port in the storm and an escape from his misery and failures. As time passes, he even begins to see this stranger he has been calling "mom" all his life in a whole new light. However, only when he starts the 42.195 km marathon run with Hung does he finally learn why she insisted on taking on the run of a lifetime.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

No matter how children break their hearts, mothers would still sacrifice for them. In our youth, we set out to seek our own path. However, when I fall, I just want my mother to hold me and tell me that everything will be okay. When we get older, we realise the importance of family and that there is no place like home. After all these years, I now wish to express my love for my mother in the best way I know.

Life is like a marathon: We just need to grit our teeth and hang on until the finish line is within reach someday. We may not get our desired result, but the journey will be treasured for life. To me, using a marathon to tell the story of a mother's life is the perfect match for me. Familial love is a universally relatable theme, and marathon running is the most popular sport in the world. As a result, I believe that many people will find resonance with this film.

DIRECTOR

HO Ching-yi

A graduate of Hong Kong Baptist University's Academy of Film, Ho Ching-yi is a scriptwriter and a short film director. She was a writer on TV series such as *Triumph in the Skies II* (2013), *Line Walker* (2014), *Tiger Cubs II* (2014) and *ICAC Investigators 2019* (2019). Her short films, including the 12th Fresh Wave International Short Film Festival *On The Road* (2018), screened at short film festivals around the world. *Time* (2020), produced by Lam Ka-tung, is her first original feature film script. *Hong Kong Love Story* (2020) is her first television series as head writer.

PRODUCER

MAK Ho-pong

Joined the movie industry in 2002 and worked as an assistant director for internationally renowned directors such as Tsui Hark and Yuen Woo-ping. Early in his career, he was also involved in screenwriting and other behind-the-scene positions.

In 2018, Mak made his feature directorial debut with *The Linger* (2018) (co-directed by Derrick Tao), starring Athena Chu and Louis Cheung Kai-chung. His second film, *Breakout Brothers* (2020), starring Patrick Tam, Louis Cheung Kai-Chung and Adam Park, was released in 2020. *Burning*, directed by Benny Lau, will be his first film as associate producer.

PRODUCTION COMPANY

A Dot Creative Studio

A Hong Kong-based production company focused on film and drama production. Its chief creatives are young, but experienced scriptwriters and production professionals. A Dot aspires to find fresh, new angles in storytelling.