

Project Summary

For the summer project Gui Zhou (The Return), I underwent the writing, production, and editing process to create a 50 minute narrative film. In my proposal I had written that I wanted to make a 20 minute film, but the film stretched in length as my script went through multiple revisions to adapt to the resources I received in Taiwan.

The first three weeks (May 23 - June 14) I spent in the research and writing process, along with casting the actors for my film. I got a lot of help from my Taiwanese relatives in terms of gathering resources for our production and we ended up collaborating with the local Fu Jen Catholic University's English department for our actor search which we also promoted on Facebook. I also made sure to film b-roll for the documentary aspect of the project during this time.

The next two weeks were spent on production (shooting calendar on next page). I had written 12 scenes for my film and we had to get all of it in before our actors would be unavailable.



What I got to hone during the production of Gui Zhou – directing, leadership, and Chinese language skills – was an invaluable experience and would have been possible without the Ingrassia Grant which paid for my travel fees to get to Taiwan.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>16</p> <p>Scene 6: B-Roll for Li Shan and Shu Mei</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 12:30 PM Cast Call Time: 1:00 PM</p> <p>Location: 1. 廣行橋附近</p> <p>Location 2: 新北市泰山區... 工業路、神農七號三樓、附近 科技大樓門口... 試鏡地點</p> <p>Cast: Shu Mei/ Meng Meng Li Shan/ Xiao Xue</p> <p>Break at 5 pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Scene 8: Temple</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 7:30 AM Cast Call Time: 8:30 AM</p> <p>Location: 泰山廟</p> <p>Cast: Yu Ge, Da Yi</p> <p>Break at 3 pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>(in this order) Scene 5: cast and crew chat in dining room Scene 3: Li Shan wakes up in bedroom Scene 4: Shu Mei and Fan Da Ge speak in the kitchen</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 8:30 AM Cast Call Time: 9:30 AM (and early, around noon)</p> <p>Location: 麗水街31號 (捷運-東門站、5號出口)</p> <p>Cast: Yu Ge, Li Shan/ Xiao Xue Da Ge, Shu Mei/ Meng Meng Crew Members</p> <p>Break at 5 pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Scene 2: Alleyway Fan House; Li Shan returns home; Yu Ge speaks to Xiao Xue</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 8:00 AM Cast Call Time: 9:00 AM</p> <p>Location: 新北市泰山區工業路4號2樓1號</p> <p>Cast: Yu Ge, Li Shan/ Xiao Xue, Shu Mei/ Meng Meng, Fan Da Ge</p> <p>Break at 3 pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Scene 1: Aquarium Yu Ge and Da Yi</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 1:30 PM Cast Call Time: 2:00 PM</p> <p>Location: 佳佳海鮮餐館外圍</p> <p>Scene 12: Er Yi and Yu Ge (end scene at the fish pond)</p> <p>Location: 臺北大排生態園區</p> <p>Break at 6 pm</p> <p>Cast: Yu Ge, Er Yi</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Scene 9: Tea shop</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 8:30 AM Cast Call Time: 9:00 AM Yu Ge Call Time: 11:00 AM</p> <p>Location: 臺北大排生態園區</p> <p>Cast: Yu Ge, Shu Mei/ Meng Meng, Li Shan/ Xiao Xue, Shopkeeper, Workshop Crew Members</p> <p>Break at 5 pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Scene 7: Er Yi and Xiao Xue on Balcony</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 2:30 PM Cast Call Time: 3:00 PM</p> <p>Location: 泰山街</p> <p>Cast: Xiao Xue/ Li Shan, Er Yi</p> <p>Break at 5:30</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Scene 10: Yu Ge and Xiao Xue's final conversation</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 1:30 pm Cast Call Time: 2:00 pm</p> <p>Location: 泰山街</p> <p>Cast: Yu Ge, Xiao Xue/ Li Shan</p> <p>Break at 6 pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Scene 11: Opera Singing</p> <p>Location: 台北市農會廳31號</p> <p>Crew Call Time: 10:00 AM Cast Call Time: 10:30 AM Cast: Da Yi, Yu Ge</p> <p>Scene 13: B-Roll for Yu Ge</p> <p>Location: 龍門陣徒步區</p> <p>Cast: Yu Ge</p> <p>Break at 6 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>NO FILMING</p>	<p>26</p> <p>BACK UP DATE</p>			<p>Saturday 6/29: Wrap party at Jean's place!</p>



After the shooting process was complete, I began the syncing process for the video and audio recorded before editing a rough cut of the film. I was able to hold a wrap party for my cast and crew and show them a teaser for a project they had worked so hard on. The rough cut of the film came together slowly as I assembled the footage, worked on the sound design, collaborated with a Taiwanese composer, and performed color correction and color grading for the film.

Stills from the film





Budget

Paying Actors	\$2,015.00
Food for filming	\$430.00
Payment for Music Score composer	\$300.00
Vimeo account subscription (one year)	\$240.00
SD card (256 GB)	\$69.98
SSD drive	\$168.97
Total Spent	\$3,223.95
Miller Grant Funding	\$3,000.00
Out of pocket expenses	\$223.95

Recognition and Next Steps

My film was screened at Newcomb Theater on September 29th, where it received a review from the [cavalier daily](#). It was screened again at Visible Records on November 22nd. I am in the process of submitting the film to film festivals.

