

Document Citation

Title	A summer at Grandpa's
Author(s)	Tony Rayns
Source	<i>San Francisco International Film Festival</i>
Date	1986 Mar 22
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	22
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Dongdong de jiaqi (A summer at Grandpa's), Hou Hsiao-Hsien,, 1984



U.S. PREMIERE

A Summer at Grandpa's

(Tung-tung-de Chia-chi)

Taiwan 1984, 102 mins.

In Hokkien, Taiwanese and Mandarin
with English subtitles

Together with his friend and colleague Edward Yang, Hou Hsiao-hsien has emerged as the major figure in the "New Taiwan Cinema." *A Summer at Grandpa's* confirms everything suggested by his last film, *The Boys From Fengkuei* (SFIFE, 1985) (and by his remarkable performance in Edward Yang's *Taipei Story*): that he has an unfailing gift for discovering mystery and magic in the everyday and a particular feeling for Taiwan's indigenous people and culture. Young Tung-tung and his even younger sister are packed off to their grandparents' home for the summer holiday; it is their first real encounter with the countryside—and with figures from Taiwan's past like their stern grandfather who has been running a country hospital since the days of the Japanese occupation. The film is a seductive but unsentimental collage of their summer experiences, ranging from a disastrous swim in a river to a brush with two young thugs. It is gentle, deeply humane and totally assured.

—Tony Rayns, Edinburgh Festival

Directed by Hou Hsiao-hsien. Produced by Chang Hua-kun. Written by Chu Tien-wen. Photo: Chen Kun-hou. Cast: Wang Chi-kuang, Ku Jun, Mei Fang, Lin Hsiou-ling. Production Co.: Marble Road. Print Source: Central Motion Picture Corp., Taipei.

SF FILM
FESTIVAL

3/86

SAT 3/22 SUN 3/30