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US Independents



USA 1981

Chan Is Missing

Sat 20 Nov 6.15

Director: Wayne Wang

Production Company: Wayne Wang Productions

Producer/Editor: Wayne Wang

Screenplay: Isaac Cronin, Terrel Seltzer, Wayne Wang

Photography (B&W): Michael Chin

Music: Robert Kikuchi

Sound: Curtis Choy

Export Agent: Wayne Wang Productions, 615 Grant Avenue, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, California 94108

Leading Players: Wood Moy, Marc Hayashi, Laureen Chew, Judi Nihei

Running Time: 80 mins

Festivals: Los Angeles, Hong Kong, Denver

'*Chan Is Missing* is one of the funniest, most humane and wisest films I've seen in a very long time, as well as a small miracle of efficient movie-making – shot on a budget of less than \$20,000 on grainy black-and-white 16-millimetre stock that perfectly matches the style of the film's two amateur sleuths . . . Wayne Wang is exploring the loyalties of Chinese-Americans divided between ancient traditions and those of a new country that never permits complete assimilation. The form of the film is a hilariously dense Philip Marlowe type of caper involving two San Francisco cab drivers, Jo and his nephew Steve, a relentlessly hip young man who is perfectly aware that he is carrying to new extremes of nuttiness the manners of Charlie Chan's No 2 son. In their search for the mysterious, never-seen Chan Hung, who has swindled them out of \$4,000, Jo and Steve take us on a tour of Chinatown that no tourist ever sees, a place of comic contradictions, earnest endeavours and emotional dislocations.'—*Vincent Canby, New York Times*.

LFF '82