

## Document Citation

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USA 1991

## Shoot for the Contents

Director: Trinh T. Minh-ha

Leading Players: Ying Lee-Kelley, Dewi Yee,  
Wu Tian Ming

Festivals: Denver

Running Time: 102 mins

The new film by the director of *Surname Viet Given Name Nam* is one of the most extraordinary documentaries of recent years, and represents a major creative intervention in the conventions of the genre. Trinh T. Minh-ha uses the tragic events in Tienanmen Square as the focus for a complex meditation on questions of power, change, politics and culture, weaving the points of view of both insiders and outsiders engaged in many different areas of social and artistic activity. The sayings of Mao and Confucius, images of rural China, folk songs and a series of remarkably innovative and stylized interviews are juxtaposed in a complex and suggestive counterpoint, and the film is remarkable for the power and conviction with which it argues that Maoism, whatever its limitations, has harmed China less than centuries of Confucianism. A beautiful and moving film, as challenging and stimulating formally as it is politically.

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9 Sat 5.00 ICA