

## Document Citation

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SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 13, 2006

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Still Life

San Xia Hao Ren

China, Hong Kong, 2006, 108 min, Sony HD Cam

North American Premiere

Directed By: Jia Zhangke

PRODS: Xu Penge, Wang Tianyun, Song Jing


SCR: Jia Zhangke

CAM: Yu Likwai

ED: Kong Jinlei

MUS: Lim Giong

Cast: Zhao Tao, Han Dejun, Wang Hongwei, Lan Zhou, Huang Yong, Peng Jianlin



Other Resources

Golden Lion winner, Venice 2006


Jia Zhangke's capacity to astonish shows no sign of diminishing: this masterly film is one of his best. Comprising two overlapping stories, *Still Life* is set in Fengjie, a town on the Yangtze River, already half gone in the planned flooding caused by the Three Gorges Dam and soon to disappear forever. The images of demolition--some of which go far beyond conventional "realism"--provide a resonant context for the psychologically damaged characters, but the overall perspective is warm and deeply humane.


In one story Han Sanming, a man from Shanxi, arrives in the area to look for his ex-wife; it turns out that he's actually driven by a sudden emotional need to see his daughter, now in her late teens. In the other a woman from Shanghai (Jia's regular star Zhao Tao) comes looking for the husband she hasn't seen or heard from in two years; she wants a divorce. The man makes unexpected new friends and the woman gets unexpected help (and, perhaps, advice) from an archaeologist. Jia's vision of present-tense China remains trouble-fraught, but the mood is cautiously upbeat: the characters reach new understandings, new bridges are built and people learn to live with their regrets.


Jia Zhangke Filmography: *Xiao Wu* (97), *Platform* (00), *Unknown Pleasures* (02), *The World* (04)

Screening Schedule

Date	Time	Venue	Tickets
Mon, Oct 2	6:20 pm	Empire Granville 7 Theatre 2	\$9.50 <a href="#">ADD TO CART</a>
Wed, Oct 4	12:30 pm	Empire Granville 7 Theatre 2	\$7.50 <a href="#">ADD TO CART</a>
Sat, Oct 7	12:30 pm	Empire Granville 7 Theatre 2	\$7.50 <a href="#">ADD TO CART</a>

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FILM FESTIVAL

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