

Document Citation

Title	After war
Author(s)	Derek Elley
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	2002 Aug 26
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	29
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Jeon jang keu i hu... (After war), Moon Seong-wook,, 2002

AFTER WAR *Variety* *8/26-31/02* *P.29*

(SOUTH KOREA)

A Jeonju Intl. Film Festival, Mirovision presentation of a Mirovision production, in association with KD Media. (International sales: Mirovision, Seoul.) Reviewed at Locarno Film Festival (video competition), Aug. 4, 2002. Original title: *Jeonjaeng keu ihu...* Total running time: 108 MIN.

A LETTER FROM HIROSHIMA

A Cuatro Fats production.

Directed, written by Nobuhiro Suwa. Camera (color, DV), Suwa; editor, Yuji Oshige. Japanese & Korean dialogue. Running time: 36 MIN.

With: Kim Ho-jeong, Nobuhiro Suwa, Mashu Suwa.

SURVIVAL GAME

A Mirovision production. Produced by Song Lee.

Directed, written by Moon Seung-wook. Camera (color, DV), Chae Hong-pil; editor, Jerry Noh; art director, Lee Dong-eun. Original Korean title: *Seobaibeol geim*. Korean dialogue. Running time: 38 MIN.

With: Jung Eun-pyo.

THE NEW YEAR

A Golden Era Production Co. production. Produced by Taozi. Executive producer, Wang Xiashuai.

Directed, written by Wang Xiashuai. Camera (color, DV), Kangbon; editor, Zhou Xinxia. Original Mandarin title: *Chuxi*. Shanghainese, Mandarin & English dialogue. Running time: 34 MIN.

With: Taozi, Shi Jie'en.

Loosely grouped around the theme of "war" and its aftermath, these three DV shorts by East Asian helmers in their 30s and 40s are conveniently arranged in ascending order of merit. Compilation tied for the top prize in Locarno's video competition but outside of fests has no market except highly specialized TV.

Semi-docu "A Letter From Hiroshima" is another nicely composed but intellectually empty exercise from Nobuhiro Suwa ("M/Other," "2/Duo"), in which helmer leaves a Korean actress friend (Kim Ho-jeong, from "Butterfly") stranded in her hotel to soak up his hometown's history. Far better — though over-discursive and wearily shot — is the fictional "Survival Game," by Moon Seung-wook ("Butterfly"), where an arrogant fund manager gets his comeuppance on a paint-gun military course. Outdoing both, however, with its moving simplicity and lack of pretension is Wang Xiashuai's no-frills docu centered on the death, in a Shanghai hospital over Chinese New Year 2002, of the father of an emigre delayed in the U.S. by post-9/11 green-card complications. Finally arriving when her dad is critically ill, she's buoyed by her incurably optimistic uncle as she negotiates China's health service and the shock of homecoming.

— Derek Elley