

WHITE RIVER

燕交





PRESS CONTACT

Michael Krause | Foundry Communications | (212) 586-7967
mkrause@foundrycomm.com

FILM MOVEMENT BOOKING CONTACT

Erin Farrell | Theatrical & Festival | (212) 941-7744 x206
erin@filmmovement.com



SYNOPSIS

A woman living in the quiet town Yanjiao, which is separated from Beijing by the White River, observes strict quarantine rules, maintaining a simple daily routine of cooking and cleaning. Her mundane existence, however, gives way to an erotic entanglement when she begins sleeping with a waiter from the neighborhood under the watchful eye of her husband.

From first-time female director Ma Xue, *WHITE RIVER* tests the viewers' perceptions about voyeurism and female sensuality to surreal effect inside a playfully explicit drama.

DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Director Ma Xue was born in Beijing, China and received a double degree in Korean and art from Peking University. After graduating with a master's degree in Mass Media from Seoul University in South Korea, she studied for a doctorate in film at Hanyang University in South Korea.

"White River" is the first feature film written and directed Ma Xue.





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

There is a city next to Beijing called Yanjiao, which is not part of Beijing. However, because of its proximity to Beijing, some people work in Beijing during the day and then spend the night in Yanjiao, thus Yanjiao is also known as a "sleeping city". During the pandemic, people's lives and work were significantly impacted. I was curious about people living in Yanjiao and working in Beijing at that particular time. With a river separating Yanjiao and Beijing, I wondered if someone would go out of their way and risk crossing the river to Beijing in order to come to Beijing for work. I would say, such curiosity and conjecture gave me the desire to create this film.

Poetry is an art form that dates back to ancient times, and it is still being spread by contemporary generations, suggesting that poetry has always been a way for people to express their emotions, convey their thoughts, and even explore their philosophy. As the heroine of the film, I imagined that she would recite poetry in a calm but depressed state, perhaps the characters can be more fully expressed when the poem comes along with the heroine's mood and state.

When I was preparing this film, I wanted to find professional actors who would be able to give their all to their roles without too much mental burden, and who would believe that the body is also part of the performance. I was so lucky that the three leads were as good as I expected them to be. They trusted me on set and believed in the characters themselves. They didn't have too many psychological problems, and they performed smoothly and productively, with great professionalism and sincerity, and I think they are really good actors. Of course, I also cleared the set, and only the cameraman was on set.



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

COUNTRY : SOUTH KOREA

DURATION : 91 MINUTES

LANGUAGE : MANDARIN, ENGLISH

IMAGE : COLOR

SHOOTING FORMAT : 4K

CAST

YANG FAN

Tian Yuan

YUAN YONG

Song Ningfeng

XIAO FANG

Xu Weihao

CREW

DIRECTED BY

MA XUE

WRITTEN BY

MA XUE, XU WEIHAO

EDITED BY

QIN YANAN

PRODUCED BY

MA XUE, SHAN ZUOLONG

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

ASH CHEN

COSTUME DESIGNER

GAO RUOMENG

ART DIRECTOR

LI SHUAI

SOUND

LI TAO

MUSIC COMPOSER

ZHANG DI