

## Shanghai Saga – other skies, other lands

上海歌·另尋天地

an EXPERIMENTA project 緊急制工作室

a work by Linda C.H. Lai and Gina S.Y. Wong 黎肖嫻、黃思源作品

Hong Kong 2009 / 32 minutes

### SYNOPSIS

*Shanghai Saga* is a video essay-poem on Shanghai by two Hong Kong women, Linda and Gina, who relate to Shanghai on very different horizons. Linda knows Shanghai as a film historian, cultural theorist, a curious reader of literature, and an interested traveler who walks the city, whereas Gina, an economist and free-lance art incubator, splits her residence between Shanghai and Hong Kong. Linda engages in the literary and visual imaginary of Shanghai, observes the everyday texture of the city and the effects of urban renewal; Gina studies the unnoticed scenario of excessive real estate development as an accidental refuge for unknown artists. Gina brings to her camera the faces and voices of individuals in Shanghai who seek to make sense of their artistic career, while Linda discovers individuals in Hong Kong who have unique personal connections to Shanghai...

### CONCEPT / ARTISTS' STATEMENT

As a species of video diary and visual ethnography, the work evolves around the question of what it means to know a place and space as a generative category of knowledge. It experiments with a broad range of visual sources, from 1934 to 2008, opening up each audio-visual fragment as both document on its own right and representation of a lived moment.

*Camera:* Linda LAI 黎肖嫻, Gina WONG 黃思源

*Editing:* Linda LAI 黎肖嫻, WOO Ling-ling 胡玲玲

*Additional shots:* Hector RODRIGUEZ, Karen CHIM, Peony CHEUNG

*Found footage research:* Linda LAI

電影片段資料搜集：黎肖嫻

*Research on Da Dongfang estate artists:* Gina WONG, YU Jiajie

大東方地產項目藝術家訪查：黃思源、于佳婕

*Location shots were taken from the following movies:*

Goddess 神女 (1934 / WU Yonggang)

New Women 新女性 (1934 / CAI Chusheng)

Street Angel 馬路天使 (1935 / YUAN Muzhi)

Old and New Shanghai 新舊上海 (1936 / CHENG Bugao)

Crossroads 十字街頭 (1937 / SHEN Xiling)

Modern Women 摩登女性 (1945 / TU Guangqi)

Everlasting Regret 長恨歌 (2005 / Stanley KWAN)