

Dear Colletif Jeune Cinéma,

Thank you for selecting "A Maiden's Prayer" in this year's competition.
of the festival.

Besides of the synopsis, I want to tell few things extra about the film.

The film is based on my friend Zheng Sheng Xun's poem, with my
reinterpretation with the diary films used as found-footage.

In 2015 I made "Yi-Ren (The person who I think of)", Zheng is the one
invited me to do the film with CHU Kang Chien's poems, since he
was the publisher. Yi-Ren was my first poetry film ever, and "A Maiden
was the second. He was also one of the voice in "Yi-Ren", I think
both of the works ~~share~~ shares a similar kind of, damp and ~~very~~ lonely
and eager kind of sentimentalism. This kind of sentimentality
makes me think of my teenage period.



2016, I was in NY. I heard the news of Zheng's death in a late night phone call from a mutual friend (who's one of the Maiden in the film). After the memorial, a group of friends decide to visit a lake Zheng used to go swim in. And that's when we decide to cosplay Japanese high school students. I ~~came~~ to celebrate his sensibility. I carried my bolex to document some footage you see in the film.

In 2017 I decided to use the footage to develop a film as a tribute to Zheng. I didn't know the project will be dragging this long. maybe to revisit the project file is a way that I ~~revisit~~ this revisit kind of sensibility ... now this version is the 4th one since 2017.



I don't know how to describe this kind of sensibility.

For me, Zheng was my first inspiration of (a certain kind of) queer theory.

He was an scholar in Chinese literature but queering all the legitel things

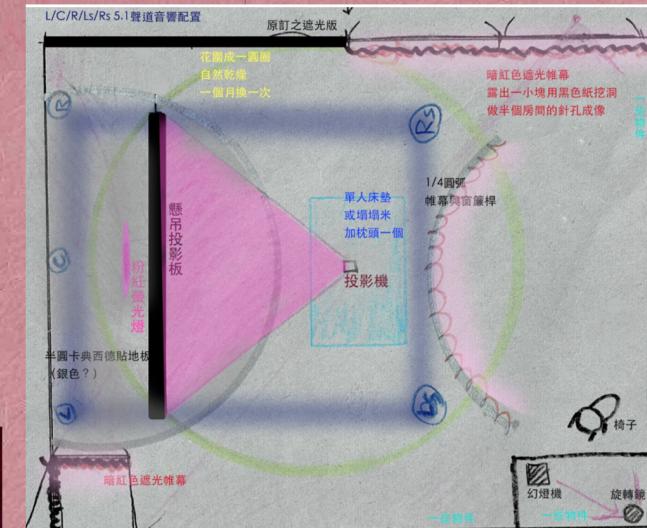
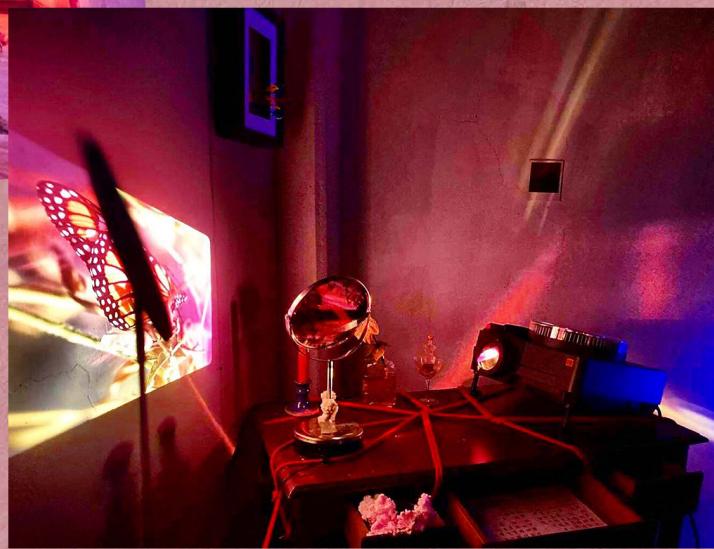
He praised negative emotions and surfers from tiny traumas of come from
mundane life.... in a celebrative way. I treasures all these memories

about Zheng. and all of these sort of effects on my personal life. like

relationships or my attitude to those things too bright and profound.



Last year I was invited to make installation for Taiwan Video ART Biennale, it's my first time to have chance to redevelop a film work into installation, not just films for installation purpose. So I made the space into a room.. with real flowers, slide projector, a bed, curtain, a pinhole, a magic circle, ... and a table. With the film. Here are a photo & the plan. →



I also used Iomokino to extend the idea of poem. 普若(प्रज्ञा, Prajñā)
, what I translate as "higher consciousness", is also a woman turn into demon
due to the unsatisfy of love, in Japanese Nott. theater. which I think
is also link to this kind of sensibility.



绝对
相对
实地



I'm curious what people will think if they never see the installation. And I also don't know if it's better or not. compare with the 6 mins version, but I'm happy that I uses the footage from the exhibition last year. For me. it's magical that the work has its own life. And the kismit between one and the other is like that, too. Even it's personal, I hope you will find some clues ~~from~~ within.

photo by Etang CHEN. 2016.



I'm curious what people will think if they never see the installation. And I also don't know if it's better or not. compare with the 6 mins version, but I'm happy that I uses the footage from the exhibition last year. For me. it's magical that the work has its own life. And the kismit between one and the other is like that, too. Even it's personal, I hope you will find some clues ~~from~~ within.

ps. I miss CJC! My hugs and best wishes
to the future of you in this chaotic world.

best.
Tzuan Wu
09/15/2021,
Taipei;