

# I ' M S T A R V I N G



13 mins 1999 colour 16mm film  
a film by Yau Ching

*I'm Starving* is an erotic love tale between a ghost and a woman who share a small apartment in New York's Chinatown. The ghost who eats paper money and Chinese takeout menus contrasts starkly with the woman who thrives on instant ramen noodles; both, haunted by their landlord, decide eventually to invent a future together.

Director/Screenplay/Editor: YAU CHING Cast: DAISY SIU (Ghost), ROBIN CORNETT (Woman) Camera: ARLENE SANDLER Lighting: DAN LABATTO Sound: REBECCA WILLIAMS, LAURIE WEN Art Director: CARRIE HAZELWOOD, SARAH VOGWILL Gaffer: ESTELA RUIZ Still Photographer: JOANNIE M.CHEN Funder: ASTRAEA FOUNDATION Distributors: FRAMELINE (NORTH AMERICA), HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE (ASIA)

Invited to Asia-Pacific Film Festival; Immaginaria, Bologna; Contemporary Issues Film Festival of Loulé, Portugal; Hong Kong International Film Festival; Hong Kong Arts Centre; Broadway Cinemateque, Hong Kong; Pink Days, Amsterdam; London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival; Seoul Lesbian and Gay Film Festival; Tampere Short Film Festival, Finland; São Paulo Short Film Festival, Brazil; European Media Arts Festival, Osnabrück, Germany; Women In the Director's Chair, Chicago; Brno 16 Film Festival, Czech Republic; Sony Theater Lincoln Square, New York; Centro Cultural Montchermoso, Vitoria Gasteiz, Spain.

Awards: Silver Award, Open Competition, Hong Kong Independent Film and Video Awards; Silver Prize, Brno 16 Film Festival, Czech Republic

"The pleasure of this film is the cultural references, metaphoric whispers and openly interpretive tale. Through gentle, erotic gestures and suggestions, *I? Starving* evokes a whirlwind of passionate lesbian hunger and desire." --Lucretia Knapp, Dyke TV

**Yau Ching** was born in Hong Kong, educated in New York and London, and is currently working in Hong Kong as a media artist, writer and educator. Her films and videos have been awarded at the Ann Arbor Film Festival, Cindy Film Competition, German Video Art Prize, Brno Film Festival, Image Forum in Japan, and exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, New York Public Library, London Film Festival, Flaherty International Film Seminars, Mill Valley Film Festival, Hawaii Film Festival, the Experimental Audio-Visual Festival in the Netherlands, and the Worldwide Video Festival in Den Haag, among others. Past works include: *Is There Anything Specific You Want Me To tell You About?* (90), *Flow* (93), *The Ideal/Na(rra)tion* (93), *Video Letters 1-3* (93), *Diasporama: Dead Air* (97), *June 30, 1997 (aka Celebrate What?)* (97), and *Suet-sin's Sisters* (99).

## Director's Statement:

This is eventually a story about desire, or its impossibility.

I was at a stage that I needed to realize a story as such, as a catharsis for my own being.

The themes that I have always been obsessed with, like language and cultural differences, are still present but while they form essential components of the story, they also give way to something more basic:

the will to desire;  
to love and to live.