

侯季然 作品
A Film by Hou Chi-Jan



Poetries from the Bookstores

— Somewhere I belong

出品人 Lewis CHANG, Jerry CHANG | 監製 蘇麗媚 | 項目統籌 劉桂伶 | 項目執行 施瑛 黃子裕 | 製片 林佳儒 | 執行製片 蘇裕翔 | 攝影 王亮鈞 馮信華 蔡維隆
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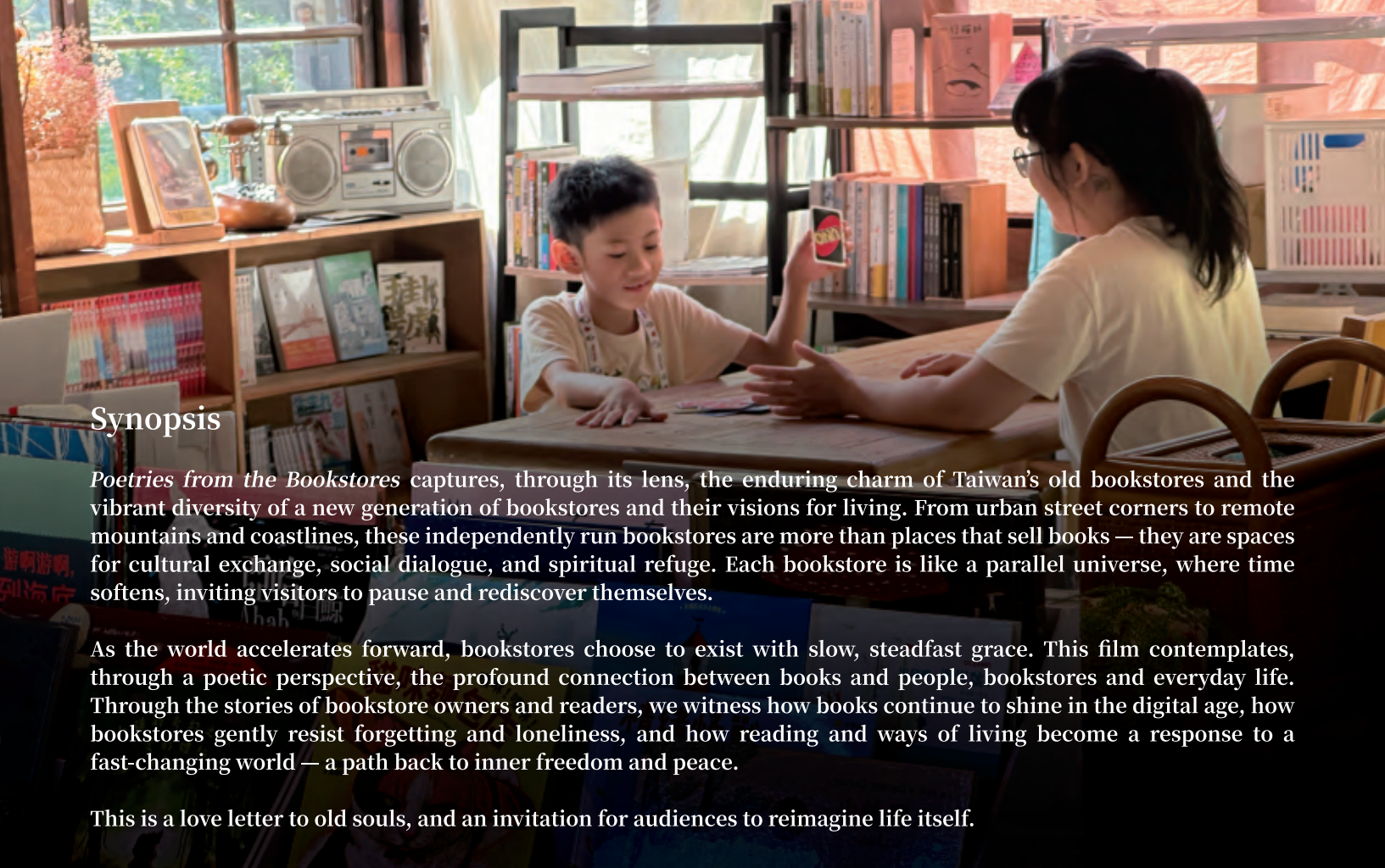
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Producer Inch LIN Line Producer Ronin SU Cinematographer WANG Liang-Chun, Mahua Shin-Hua FENG, Steve Wei-Long TSAI

Editor Eileen TU, Sunny Hideko Music Dedado HUANG, HAN Cheng-Yeh, John JIANG Sound CHANG Che-Rung Colorist KUO Juan-Ming Poster Designer Penny Pei-Ling TSAI Director HOU Chi-Jan

A Dreamland Image Co., Ltd. Production Production Company Strawberry Time Films Co., Ltd. Co-production Sweet Tongue Production Ltd. International Sales & Festival Outreach Hope Content Marketing Co., Ltd.



Synopsis

Poetries from the Bookstores captures, through its lens, the enduring charm of Taiwan’s old bookstores and the vibrant diversity of a new generation of bookstores and their visions for living. From urban street corners to remote mountains and coastlines, these independently run bookstores are more than places that sell books — they are spaces for cultural exchange, social dialogue, and spiritual refuge. Each bookstore is like a parallel universe, where time softens, inviting visitors to pause and rediscover themselves.

As the world accelerates forward, bookstores choose to exist with slow, steadfast grace. This film contemplates, through a poetic perspective, the profound connection between books and people, bookstores and everyday life. Through the stories of bookstore owners and readers, we witness how books continue to shine in the digital age, how bookstores gently resist forgetting and loneliness, and how reading and ways of living become a response to a fast-changing world — a path back to inner freedom and peace.

This is a love letter to old souls, and an invitation for audiences to reimagine life itself.



Director’s Biography

HOU CHI JAN is a renowned film director and screenwriter. His works are known for their poetic quality, with recurring themes of time and memory. HOU made his first documentary short, *My 747*, in 2004. It won the Asian New Force Grand Prix at the IFVA in Hong Kong. His feature debut, *One Day*, premiered at the 2010 Berlinale Forum. *Ode to Time*, Hou’s recent feature documentary, competed in the Asian Future at the 2016 Tokyo International Film Festival.

Fimography

- 2024 *Poetries from the Bookstores: Season 3* (Documentary Series)
- 2016 *Ode to Time* (Documentary)
 - Tokyo International Film Festival Asian Future Competition
 - Jecheon International Music & Film Festival International Competition
- 2016 *Poetries from the Bookstores: Season 2* (Documentary Series)
- 2014 *Poetries from the Bookstores* (Documentary Series)
 - Guam International Film Festival Best Documentary Short Grand Jury Award
 - DMZ International Documentary Film Festival
- 2012 *When a Wolf Falls in Love with a Sheep* (Full-length Feature)
 - Fantasia International Film Festival Best director
 - Taipei International Film Festival Best Technical Achievements
 - Golden Horse Award Best Visual Effect, Best Art Direction Nomination

